

Books and Reports Review

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Migrations in a changing world: global and regional perspectives

Migrations are powerfully shaping globalization trends and national and international political debate of the second decade of the new millennium. The total number of international migrants in the world has been increasing and has reached 244¹ million according to recent estimates, representing an increase of 40% since 2000. They include 150 million migrant workers². One-third of all international migrants are aged 15 to 34³. The phenomenon of internal migration is even larger in scale with an estimated 740 million internal migrants in 2013⁴. In addition, in 2015 an unprecedented 65.3 million people around the world have been forcibly displaced⁵, including over 21 million refugees, 3 million asylum seekers and over 40 million internally displaced persons (IDPs). The average length of displacement due to war and persecution is 17 years⁶. One-fourth of all global refugees (mostly from Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria) reside in Lebanon, Pakistan and Turkey. In 2014, more than 19 million people were internally displaced because of natural disasters⁷.

Forced migration due to conflicts and environmental and climate issues has anchored the debate on migration to the climate agenda on one side and to human security agenda on the other.

In fact, data show new emerging challenges, due to migration's increasing and multiple connections with global epidemics and conflicts, which offers a series of meaningful examples of its cross-border implications on development and on multidimensional wellbeing. Such analysis cannot avoid to deal with the implications of climate change, land and ecosystem degradation as key drivers of

¹ UNDESA – United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (2015), *Trend in International migration 2015. Population Facts*, December 2015, no. 2015/4.

² ILO (2015), *Global estimates on migrant workers. Results and methodology. Special focus on migrant domestic workers*, Geneva.

³ UNDESA (2011), *Youth and Migration Factsheet*, New York.

⁴ IOM – International Organization for Migration (2013), *Migration and the United Nations Post-2015 Development Agenda*.

⁵ UNHCR (2016), *Global Trends. Forced Displacement in 2015*.

⁶ OCHA, UNDP, UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP and the World Bank, supported by the Center on International Cooperation (2015), *Addressing protracted displacement: a framework for development-humanitarian cooperation*, December.

⁷ IDMC – Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (2014), *Global Estimates 2015. People displaced by disasters*.

migration, which is attracting particular policy attention on the challenges and opportunities that it poses for food security, sustainable agriculture and rural development.

Although migration has grown further as a primary multifaceted challenge for the globalized world, it is tackled and discussed by public opinion and media mainly in terms of prevention and impact mitigation at the expenses of the Migration and Development topics that have been more and more overshadowed in the political debate. On the other side, the inclusion of migration in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development confirms and reinforces the important relation between migration and development⁸ and the thrusting of migration into the spotlight has been contributing to the flourishing of studies, investigations and estimates that enrich data availability and the scientific debate.

Finally, increasing attention is paid to the fact that such complex scenario requires cross-border interventions to coordinate efforts in origin, transit and destination countries. Effective policy coherence is recognized as fundamental in guaranteeing the integration of migration into development at all relevant levels (regional, national and local), calling for a revised, widened and integrated approach, which will be better at dealing with present and future changes and challenges. Scholars and policy makers at all levels keep acknowledging that migration needs to work for development and that development needs to work for migration, while not underestimating the potential negative impacts and that in the future the unavoidable human mobility across the world will become more and more complex, thus presenting new challenges, risks and opportunities.

The following selection briefly presents some of the most interesting volumes issued in the last years and includes reports based on data analyses, estimates and case studies, as well as policy-oriented surveys and historical overviews.

The reviews are organized in two main sections. The first proposes some recent studies on the global phenomenon of international migration discussing trends, main topics, problems and opportunities. The second section considers migration movements, their potentialities and challenges in a regional perspective, suggesting openings for specific lines of research that distinguishes causes, effects, depending on the geographical range of human mobility and proposes the supranational regional policy level as the most appropriate to valorize potentialities and minimize risks.

⁸ Migration and human mobility are explicitly recognized in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which establishes a number of migration-related targets across the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. The 2030 Agenda also recognizes that unemployment, especially youth unemployment, as well as natural resource depletion and adverse impacts of environmental degradation are major challenges to sustainable development. Empowering vulnerable people, including youth, refugees, IDPs and migrants is key to ending poverty in all its forms and dimensions, as they all make a positive contribution to inclusive growth and sustainable development.

A. International migrations as a global issue

- (i) *On Migration and Development nexus: a new policy approach*

OECD, Perspectives on Global Development 2017: International Migration in a Shifting World, OECD Publishing, Paris (2016).

The fourth edition of OECD Development Centre's Perspectives on Global Development series continues investigating the increasing economic weight of developing countries in world economy, a phenomenon referred to as "shifting wealth", focusing on the issue of international migration and development.

The report builds on a body of research on the drivers and impacts of migration in developing countries, South-South migration and the interrelations between public policies, migration and development. It examines to what extent and how the shifting of economic activity to developing countries has affected migration patterns, and secondly the many ways in which international migration contributes to development. It aims at enriching the debate by steadily focusing on international migration from the perspective of developing countries, analysing the main trends, drivers and impacts of international migration on developing countries of origin and destination and discussing potential scenarios on the future of migration.

Recommendations to governments in origin and destination countries, as well as to the international community incorporate the development dimension in migration and labour policies, fostering policy and institutional coherence also taking advantage of the inclusion of migration-related targets in the Sustainable Development Goals to establish commitments that can be monitored multilaterally, regionally and nationally and to find durable solutions that address the future challenges of an increasingly mobile world.

Dilip Ratha, Supriyo De, Sonia Plaza, Kirsten Schuettler, William Shaw, Hanspeter Wyss, Soonhwa Yi, Migration and Remittances – Recent Developments and Outlook, Migration and Development Brief 26, World Bank, Washington, D.C., April (2016)

The Migration and Development Brief reports a comprehensive update on global migration and remittance flows.

A first part features an outlook on migration and remittance trends with a specific chapter focusing on risks. The refugee crisis is one of the main issues highlighted by

data. The conflict in Syria keeps producing refugees flows towards neighbouring countries and Europe and new refugee movements are also taking place in other parts of the world.

Moreover, the international community currently lacks a common policy to cope with the crisis; a lack of consensus on burden sharing has prompted to a tightening of border controls in some countries and areas producing a further worsening of the legal and institutional framework.

A relevant section of the report is devoted to the analyses of remittances trends with an interesting annex that explains the methodology applied for the forecast. The estimates evidence a slowdown in the growth of remittances to developing countries which have fallen from 3.2 % in 2014 to 0.4 % in 2015 due to the economic weakness in the major remittance-sending countries as well as the decrease of oil prices and currencies in some major remittance-source countries such as Russia.

Forecasts indicate a rise to a 4% yearly growth rate in 2016–17, although fluctuation of oil prices may strongly influence the global trends and the widening of black market premia linked to capital controls could limit formal inflows in some countries.

The monitoring of the remittance costs indicates a slight decrease in the global average cost while Sub-Saharan Africa, with an average cost of 9.5% on transferred amount, remains the highest-cost region.

A last section considers the theme of the relationships between migration linked to natural disasters and epidemics on one side and remittances on the other. Empirical country case studies and review of regional aggregates indicate that remittances to developing countries tend to rise moderately following a disaster while remittances role in helping people cope with natural disasters and epidemics can be diminished when disasters disrupt the money-transfer infrastructure.

Therefore, the report suggests that the international community should engage in developing principles and agreements required to deal with migration due to natural disasters and favour diaspora assistance following disasters also by facilitating financial transfers.

OECD, Interrelations between Public Policies, Migration and Development, OECD Publishing, Paris (2017).

The report is the result of a project carried out jointly by the European Commission and the OECD Development Centre in ten developing countries. The report empirically examines the links between four dimensions of migration (emigration, remittances, return migration and immigration) and five key policy sectors with most relevance accorded to migration and development: the labour market, agriculture, education, investment and financial services, and social protection and health.

It also looks at the impact of these five sectorial policies on some migration outcomes, such as decision to emigrate or return, remittances sent and how they are spent, migrants' integration. Data were gathered from surveys of more than 20 500 households and interviews with 590 local authorities and community leaders and 375 stakeholders.

The relationships between the migration dimensions, outcomes and sectorial policies are measured through regression analysis. The impact of policies and their interrelations strongly depends on context and implementation choices. There is therefore no one-size-fits-all solution to curb (or encourage) migration, turn remittances into productive investment or better integrate immigrants into host country societies.

The fact that public policies often work in silos neglecting their potential implications on other areas, such as migration, is highlighted as one of the main issues at stake. Many examples are provided to show how the combination of different policies is more likely to influence the impacts of migration. A coherent policy framework and the inclusion of migration as a cross-cutting issue in the different sectorial policies are therefore recommended to enhance migration's role in development.

Elizabeth Mavroudi, Caroline Nagel, Global Migration: Patterns, processes, and politics, Routledge, London (2016)

This textbook, aimed primarily at undergraduate and Master's students, proposes a quite accessible view of the contemporary migration movements and on complexity of building local and international migration policies. After a comprehensive introduction to the main concepts and definitions, a first section provides a perspective on historical migration patterns and trends as well as an overview on the role of migration in the economy presenting examples and significant case studies.

A second section examines the main challenges for policy makers and international community with a chapter on the complex issue of migration and development nexus followed by an interesting outlook on the more politicised topics and the main questions of inclusion, exclusion, and citizenship in the chapters dealing with refugees, border controls and flows management.

The student-friendly feature of the work combines with a sizeable body of analyses and updated examples that make the book an interesting overview on the historical context of contemporary migration, introduces many debated and sometimes still not completely explored matters, including the role of gender, race and national ideologies, as well as the perspective of immigrants themselves, and provides the references for further readings on scholarly research at the end of each chapter.

Josefina Domínguez-Mujica (ed.), Global Change and Human Mobility, Springer, Berlin (2016)

The volume offers a selection of studies developed by members of the International Geographical Union Commission taking into consideration both thematic and geographical perspectives and looking at a changing world from the focus of a new disciplinary approach. Migrations conceived as processes between points of origin and destination are transformed and analysed in terms of mobility, thus as fluidity of the relations between spaces, proposing new interpretations of old and new tendencies in the context of globalization.

The book has a strong interdisciplinary character gathering contributions and points of view of diverse social sciences such as geography, sociology, economics, political sciences, anthropology. The 15 chapters cover a broad geographical spread with case studies on migration to and from developing, emerging and industrialized countries. Various topics recur and intersect within the volume, such as the new patterns of mobility, new policy challenges of border controls, refugee movements, marginalization and social empowerment of irregular migrants, integration issue, the environmental hazards and migration nexus, gender issues, social cohesion and access to employment.

Moreover, interesting reflections on the “regional element” of transnationalism and mobility especially in the case of young generations connect this volume to the ones presented in the second section of the present selection that address the regional risks and opportunities of migrations in the building and shaping of regional social and economic systems.

Douglas J. Besharov, Mark Hugo López, Adjusting to a World in Motion: Trends in Global Migration and Migration Policy, Oxford University Press, Oxford (2016)

The volume brings together a wide range of research on various topics featuring both academic and policy perspectives with the ambitious main aim of favouring a continued international dialogue of research and analysis on migration and of allowing readers to draw lessons for their own countries in the spirit of mutual learning. The base assumption of the book is that “there seems to be no turning back the clock”, and the problem for both sending and receiving countries is to “adjust to this continuing reality”.

The book is structured in five main parts starting with an introductory description of the global trends and a summary of the key information about the pattern of migration and the causes of migration around the world.

The following four parts contain thoughtful analyses of some of the most critical issues raised in both receiving and sending countries.

The second, third and fourth parts include analyses on policies to control entry, encourage high-skilled immigration, develop refugee policy, and speed assimilation in

three important receiving regions: North America (with the title “The Western Hemisphere”, Europe and Middle East and Asia. South-South Migration, though being one of the main trends highlighted by recent data, is not one of the chapter topics.

The fifth part considers the sending country “Diaspora Engagement Strategies” designed to encourage continuing cultural, economic, and sometimes political ties among migrant communities abroad and national development.

(ii) *On distress migration and protracted crisis*

FAO, Addressing Rural Youth Migration at its Root Causes: A Conceptual Framework, FAO, Rome (2016)

Distress migration is particularly acute among rural youth, while agriculture and rural development are central to the rate of rural out-migration to urban areas.

This study explores the main factors determining the propensity of rural youth to migrate, and also provides an assessment of the likely impacts of distress migration of rural youth in terms of rural development for local areas of origin. Finally it illustrates some of the most promising policies and programmes to reduce distress migration of rural youth and maximize its developmental benefits for the communities of origin.

This paper develops a conceptual framework about how agricultural and rural development policies can reduce the need for distress migration of rural youth; and how rural youth migration and remittances can contribute to sustainable agriculture and rural development, poverty reduction and food security in the areas of origin.

Based on available evidence, it may be concluded that within the ongoing processes of sustainable agricultural intensification and structural rural transformation in SSA and North Africa, the root causes of distress migration of rural youth need to be addressed by offering more and better on-farm and off-farm employment opportunities. The subsequent reduction in rural poverty and improvement of food security can contribute to ease migratory pressures.

This conceptual framework identifies a number of key areas for intervention at policy and programme levels.

First, obtain a better understanding of the drivers and impacts of distress migration of rural youth, through improved data and increased evidence to subsequently inform policies and programmes.

Second, ensure that agriculture and rural development (ARD) policies and strategic planning processes account for migration, labour mobility and remittances, while ensuring policy coherence. Third, implement ARD programmes explicitly targeting rural

youth to create viable on-farm and off-farm employment opportunities, which are productive, decent and in line with youth aspirations.

OCHA, UNDP, UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, WB, CIC, Addressing Protracted Displacement: A Framework for Development Humanitarian Cooperation A think piece drawing on collaboration between OCHA, UNDP, UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, and the World Bank, supported by the Center on International Cooperation, CIC (2015)

This paper is a think piece on how approaches to protracted displacement need to change if the world is to reverse the escalating crisis seen in recent times. It is not a prescriptive paper, but is designed to spur further thinking and to inform debates on policy and programming.

The think piece drew on collaboration between the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), World Food Programme (WFP), and the World Bank, supported by the Center on International Cooperation (CIC) to inform their own policy and practice, but it is hoped that the analysis will also be of interest to other development and humanitarian actors.

The approach in the paper is based on four proposed shifts in how development and humanitarian assistance works in countries with significant numbers of refugees and displaced people.

- (1) From seeing the needs of refugees and internally displaced persons as a challenge separate from development and meeting them through short-term humanitarian strategies and appeals, to ensuring their welfare as a core part of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) commitment to "leave no one behind", requiring joint analysis and multi-year planning and engagement from development and humanitarian actors to achieve collective outcomes;
- (2) from care and maintenance regimes targeted primarily at displaced people in camps, to localized systems that benefit both displaced people and host societies/communities;
- (3) from approaches that marginalize refugees and internally displaced persons, to ones where the legal, regulatory, fiscal and organizational actions necessary for them to contribute to economic and social life are in place;
- (4) from treating refugee-hosting situations as a short-term, country-specific resourcing problem and meeting the needs of IDPs through international humanitarian aid, to supporting refugee-hosting countries for the global public good they are providing and ensuring internal financial transfers are in place to help municipal, state and local governments absorb IDPs.

(iii) *On migration within the SDGs framework*

IOM, International Dialogue on Migration No. 26: Follow-up and review of Migration in the Sustainable development Goals, IOM (2017)

This publication contains the report and complementary materials of the two workshops held in 2016 under the overarching theme “Follow-up and Review of Migration in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)” within the framework of the International Dialogue on Migration (IDM), IOM’s principal forum for migration policy dialogue. The two workshops were held in New York on 29 February and 1 March, and respectively in Geneva on 11 and 12 October 2016.

The first workshop addressed the implications of migration being included in the Sustainable Development Goals. It discussed tools and mechanisms that could help Member States to measure progress on achieving relevant migration-related SDG targets, as well as it looked, inter alia, at options for “thematic review” of migration-related SDG targets and at the role of International Organizations in achieving the migration targets.

Building on the conclusions of the first workshop, the second workshop assessed progress in the implementation of the migration-related SDGs.

It discussed the state of migration policies one year after the adoption of the 2030 Agenda from the perspective of States and other stakeholders in the migration area. It also presented best practices in countries making progress on the migration-related SDGs, and looked at how can the institutional capacity of States to measure and report on progress on achieving the migration-related targets be improved.

By dedicating its major policy discussion forum to discussions on implementation, follow-up and review of migration aspects of the SDGs, IOM wished to open a space for IOM Member States and relevant key players in migration and development area.

The aim is to present strategies and measures that they are putting in place to achieve the migration-related targets, including good practices, challenges, lessons learned and areas that need support and shared experiences.

(iv) *On migration and rural-urban relations*

IOM, World Migration Report 2015 – Migrants and Cities: New Partnerships to Manage Mobility, IOM (2016)

Nearly one in five of all migrants live in the world's top 20 largest cities. In many of these cities migrants represent over a third or more of the population. Other cities have seen a remarkable growth in migration in recent years. In Asia and Africa, rapidly growing small cities are expected to absorb almost all the future urban population growth of the world and this mobility pattern to cities and urban areas is characterized by the temporality and circularity of the internal migration process.

The fast rate of urbanization, and rising migration to cities, brings with it both risks and opportunities for the migrants, communities and governments concerned. The World Migration Report 2015 explores how migration and migrants are shaping cities, and how the life of migrants, in turn, is shaped by cities, their people, organizations and rules.

The report contributes to the global debate on migration and urbanization in three ways.

First, it documents how migration is shaping cities and the situation of migrants in cities. Much of the current discussion about migration trends and migration policy tends to focus on the national level. Taking the migration enquiry to the city level increases our understanding of the local political economies of migration and the close connection between migration and urban development.

Second, the report draws attention to the livelihood of migrants in the cities of the Global South. The existing discussions on migrants and cities are inclined to concentrate primarily on the Global North and the integration of international migrants.

Third, the report examines both internal and international migration with cities across the development spectrum having to manage growing mobile and diverse populations.

The final part draws conclusions and makes recommendations for future initiatives to develop migrant-inclusive urban governance, with reference to the inclusion of migration in the post-2015 global sustainable development framework.

(v) *On migration's perceptions:*

Neli Esipova, Julie Ray, Anita Pugliese, Dato Tsabutashvili, Frank Laczko, Marzia Rango, How the world views migration, IOM (2015)

This piece provides, for the first time, an insight into public attitudes towards immigration worldwide. The findings presented in the report – based on interviews with over 183,000 adults across more than 140 countries between 2012 and 2014 – represent the first steps towards understanding the lenses through which people view immigration at a global level.

Adults surveyed in Gallup's World Poll were asked two questions about immigration:

- (1) In your view, should immigration in this country be kept at its present level, increased or decreased?
- (2) Do you think immigrants mostly take jobs that citizens in this country do not want (e.g. low-paying or not prestigious jobs), or mostly take jobs that citizens in this country want?

One of the key findings of the report is that in every major region of the world – with the important exception of Europe – people are more likely to want immigration levels in their countries to either stay at the present level or to increase, rather than to decrease. This contrasts with the negative perceptions of migration often portrayed in the media in certain regions of the world.

European residents appear to be, on average, the most negative globally towards immigration, with the majority believing immigration levels should be decreased. There is, however, a sharp divergence in opinions among residents in Northern and Southern Europe.

The report also shows that certain sociodemographic characteristics are more consistently associated with favourable or opposing attitudes to immigration. For instance, adults with a university degree are typically more likely than those with lower levels of education to want to see immigration kept at its present level or increased in their countries.

Another key finding is that people's views about their personal and their countries' economic situations may be the strongest predictors of their views of immigration: those who perceive economic situations as poor or worsening are more likely to favour lower immigration levels into their countries, and vice versa.

In terms of perceived job competition between immigrants and nationals, there appears to be a clear divide based on national income: residents of high-income economies overall are much more likely to say immigrants take jobs citizens do not want than jobs that citizens want. In all other economies, residents are more likely to say immigrants take the jobs that citizens want.

The full results from this report were released for the first time at the Global Forum on Migration and Development summit in Istanbul, during a side event on 15 October. The presenters will also discuss the merits of how a regularly conducted global barometer of public opinion on migration could contribute to the dialogue about migration in relation to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

B. The regional level: reports and policy-oriented analysis

Tony Fielding, Asian Migrations: Social and Geographical Mobilities in Southeast, East, and Northeast Asia, Routledge, London (2015)

The textbook objective is to provide students with an understanding of the causes and consequences of the many types of contemporary migration flows in East Asia.

The geographical boundaries of the phenomena taken into consideration are clearly defined with the aim of filling the knowledge gaps of both students and decision makers concerning East Asia societies and their changing caused by and causing migration movements.

The author's goal is to describe and analyse the extremely complex reality with a very strong interdisciplinary approach and methodological inclusiveness, combining theoretical debate and detailed empirical analysis.

All forms of migration are considered, including labour migration, student migration, marriage migration, displacement and human trafficking in a region where some migrations within national borders imply far bigger social changes because of distance moved, cultural, social and legal barriers to be overcome – such as in China - than some short-distance international migrations among Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia.

The proposed case studies embrace the three main sub-regions of Southeast Asia, China, including Hong-Kong, Macao, Taiwan and Mongolia, and Northeast Asia that encompasses here Japan, the two Republic of Korea and the Far East provinces of Russia.

The volume aspires to offer a comprehensive coverage of both broad structures influencing migrations and factors affecting the individual agency and behaviour of migrants, with emphasis on the policy implications of the trends and processes discussed.

Yuk Wah Chan, Heidi Fung, Grażyna Szymańska-Matusiewicz, The Age of Asian Migration: Continuity, Diversity, and Susceptibility Volumes 1 And 2, Cambridge Scholars Publisher, Cambridge (2016)

The book assembles the two volumes already published in 2014 and 2015 featuring the outcome of the Asian Migration Conference held in Hong Kong in September 2013, co-hosted by the City University of Hong Kong and the International Organization for Migration and that resulted particularly helpful to understand the specificities of Asian migration and their evolution since the latter part of the 20th century and to stimulate academic discussion and analyses of migration-related policy-making in the region.

War, politics and economic turbulence has caused mass migrations in Asia throughout the second half of the 20th century and the continent is presently the world region that produces the most of international migrants and the second migrant receiving area.

The almost 700 pages provide a full span discussion of Asian migration from historical perspectives to updated analyses of current migration flows and diasporas, addressing an entire range of often heated debates on entry and exit policies, trans-border dynamics, host-migrant interaction, migrant governance, transnational identity, migrant integration, multiculturalism issues and relationships between arrival of new migrants and the adjustment experiences of former migrants.

The first volume contains eleven chapters focusing on specific themes referring to six sub-regional areas and highlighting the especially crucial migration dynamics and the new issues that have characterised each of those regions over roughly the past half-century.

The eleven chapters of the second volume are differently arranged under three migration themes: the feminisation of Asian migration since the early 1990s, the refugee migration in the region with the cross-border movements between neighbouring countries and the transformation of many borderlands as temporary or permanent refugee settlements and migration economy and remittances that are significant factors for economic growth in a number of regions in Asia.

Lamin O. Ceesay, From Intra-regional West African Migration toward an Exodus to Europe. A Case Study on Ghana, Anchor Academic Publishing (2017)

The study highlights a neglected point of view on migration from developing countries on the basis of the case of Ghanaian skilled workers migration patterns. The brain-drain issue is here considered in the more extensive regional perspective.

The shifting towards Europe of the intraregional brain circulation that ensured skilled workforce to regional development is here identified as one of the main hindrances that are paralysing the social and economic development of Western Africa.

Core of the analysis is the review of existing investigations and documentations, where the author concentrates on surveys that feature the viewpoint of the migrants and their families.

The dependency on secondary data partially limits the strengths of the research. Nonetheless, the book provides an original synthesis of data evidencing push factors for the skilled, semi-skilled, professionals and unskilled youth migration.

Conclusions are focused on policy recommendations for African decision makers still pointing out the importance of worker's mobility and brain circulation for development in a regional perspective.

The European responsibilities in creating conditions that favour the African outmigration are also highlighted, e.g. the EU subsidises to its agriculture sector that make African agriculture, which is the largest employer, unproductive and thus unattractive to the local youth.

Coherent policies that can change the migration trends are therefore suggested to both European and African countries for the benefit of both sending and receiving societies and economies.

IOM, Assessing the risks of Migration along the Central and Eastern Mediterranean Routes: Iraq and Nigeria as Case Study Countries, IOM (2016)

The purpose of this study is to give breadth to the concept of "safe migration" by analyzing patterns of migration and return from two case study countries: Iraq and Nigeria. IOM's Global Migration Data Analysis Centre completed this research study for the United Kingdom's Department for International Development as part of a wider project entitled "Mediterranean Migration Response, Reducing the Risks of Unsafe Migration: Linking Research, Data and Policy".

The report is based on 147 in-depth qualitative interviews with migrants and key informants in Nigeria, Niger and Italy (for the Central Mediterranean route) and Iraq, Greece and Germany (for the Eastern Mediterranean route). It presents an update on the dynamics of migration through these two Mediterranean routes, looking specifically at routes and the risks that present on exit, during the journey, at destination and on return. It also provides a first insight into the experience of Iraqi asylum seekers in Germany, after the large number of arrivals in 2015.

Ayala Wineman and Thomas S. Jayne, Intra-rural migration and pathways to greater well-being: Evidence from Tanzania, Department of Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics Michigan State University (2016)

Migration between rural locations is prevalent in many developing countries and has been found to improve economic well-being in sub-Saharan Africa.

This paper explores the pathways through which intra-rural migration affects well-being in rural Tanzania. Specifically, the paper investigates whether such migration enables migrants to access more land, higher quality land, or greater off-farm income generating opportunities that may, in turn, translate into improved well-being.

Drawing on a longitudinal data set that tracks rural migrants to their destinations, the authors employ a difference-in-differences approach, validated with a multinomial treatment effects model, and find that migration confers a benefit in consumption to migrants.

Results do not indicate that this advantage is derived from larger farms or from more productive farmland.

However, across all destinations, migrants are more likely to draw from off-farm and non-farm income sources, suggesting that even intra-rural migration represents a shift away from agriculture, and this is likely the dominant channel through which migrants benefit. The authors conclude that intra-rural migration merits greater attention in the discourse on rural development and structural transformation.

Filiz Garip, On the Move: Changing Mechanisms of Mexico-U.S. Migration, Princeton University Press, Princeton (2016)

The book is an in-depth investigation of Mexican migration to the United States that constitutes the great part of Northern American intraregional mobility.

The author is mainly interested in describing and analysing the characteristics of the flow patterns and migrants profile and of their evolution over time.

The use of a consistent body of survey data from over 145,000 Mexican migrants spanning from 1965 to 2010, substantiated with nearly 140 in-depth interviews, allow Garip to provide an accurate outlook of the migration dynamics revealing massive changes in the average migrant outline during the four major waves.

A glaring true diversities emerging from the data analyses shows how the push and pull factors dynamics and, jointly, how the socioeconomic composition of migrant flows have been changing in the passages from one stage to the other.

One of the leading thesis of the study is therefore: “when we look at an average migrant, we dismiss such heterogeneity a priori”. Stereotypes considering typical Mexican

migrants as young male, poor, undereducated in search of any employment, still contribute to the narrative of undesirability that permeates the political debate and marketing.

The proposed analyses orient the reader to correct this view capturing how different reasons underlying migration decisions are shaped on individual interests and how these are strongly influenced by structural and cultural context mobilising different groups of migrants and modelling their behaviours.

Marek Okólski (ed.), European immigrations: trends, structures and policy implications, Amsterdam University Press, Amsterdam (2015)

This book aims at providing a Continent-wide outlook on migration processes by addressing the long term transition of different European countries from net emigration to net immigration areas and by analysing the migrant inflow specificities, migrant integration patterns and related policies.

Based on the single country migration history and migration cycle, three main groups are taking into consideration: the old immigration countries where transition occurred in the fourth quarter of the twentieth century, the new immigration countries where the change occurred in the fourth quarter of the twentieth century and the future immigration countries where the transition is to be completed in the twenty-first century.

Common trends and country and area distinctive dynamics and underlying factors are pointed out in different contributions from authors representing various European academic centres using original empirical evidence. These include some sub-regional and country case studies that highlight Southern and Eastern European perspectives focusing on the making of immigration model in the Mediterranean new immigration countries and in the post-enlargement Europe.

The concluding chapters propose insights into migration visions and policies, comparing forecasts and different prospects regarding possible development and policy options.

Maurizio Ambrosini (ed.), Europe: No Migrant's Land?, Edizioni Epoké (2017)

The book focuses on the recent sudden upsurge of migrants reaching Europe's shores as a consequence of the political instability and conflicts in the Middle East and North African countries, demographic and economic trends.

While international cooperation is urgently needed, national responses are prevailing. Coordination is insufficient and the European response has been slow and fragmented and migration remains mainly a matter of national governments.

The raising attention of a nervous public opinion has been contributing to the volatility of national policies and diminished the capacity of finding shared solutions to address a long-trend migration challenge of this magnitude.

The volume aims at providing a better analysis of the national approaches of the last two decades, investigating the structural factors of the European political slow response and its inability to agree a common strategy.

The first two of the five contributions included in the book deal with the ongoing debate on the management of the refugee crisis, mixed migration, profiles and needs of asylum seekers, relationships among transnational problems and national priorities, focusing on the above mentioned European shortcoming capacity to coordinate to tackle emergencies and seize opportunities.

The third contribution concentrates on the role of immigrants in the European labour markets which need to address the European demographic transition, while the fourth one analyses the integration policies between multiculturalism and assimilation trends.

The last closing contribution introduces the questions about citizenship in the changing framework strongly guided by the debate on security and terrorism.