INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION DRIVERS

**LOW INCOME COUNTRIES**

International migration decreases when there are higher fertility rates and longer distances to potential destinations.

There is more international migration when there are more networks with communities in destination countries.

**MIDDLE INCOME COUNTRIES**

More international migration happens when GDP per capita rises and when there are networks between communities in origin and destination.

Changes in the GDP level in destination countries has only a small influence on migration.

**HIGH INCOME COUNTRIES**

When GDP per capita falls, there tends to be more emigration to other countries.

Networks with migrant communities in destination countries increase the likelihood of international migration.

Changes in fertility rates and education level have little influence on migration.


MAIN DRIVERS OF MIGRATION

- GDP (origin)
- Networks (origin / destination)
- Distance (origin / destination)
- Unemployment rate (destination)
- Political Terror (origin)
- Conflict (origin)
- Democracy (origin)
- Population growth (origin)
- Employment rate (destination)

INFLUENCE OF DRIVER ON MIGRATION

+ increase  - decrease

WHAT DRIVES MIGRATION TO THE EU?

FAMILY

Family reunification is more prevalent when there are communities of migrants from the same country of origin and higher GDP per capita.

WORK

The presence of previous migrants from the same origin country is the most significant driver of labour migration to the EU.

EDUCATION

More people migrate to the EU with permits for education when there are communities of migrants from the same country of origin. Less people do so when the distance from origin countries is greater or if the unemployment rate in the destination country rises.

WHAT DRIVES ASYLUM FLOWS?

- As expected, forms of conflict and state fragility result in higher numbers of asylum seekers in the EU. Economic factors, especially in origin countries, can also be important drivers of people seeking asylum as well as the presence of previous migrant communities.

There is a gap between the number of people who wish to move abroad and those who actually prepare to do so.

More than 20% of the population expresses a wish to migrate to another country.

Less than 1% of the population actually prepares to move.

THE PEOPLE WHO PREPARE TO MIGRATE ARE GENERALLY

- Younger
- Male
- Do not have children
- Foreign-born
- Have contacts in other countries
- Have higher educational attainment
- Unemployed

AGE MATTERS

In low income countries, people aged 25 to 29 are most likely to be preparing to migrate.
In middle income countries, people aged 20 to 40 are more likely than any other age groups to prepare to migrate.
In high income countries, people aged 20 to 24 are most likely to prepare to migrate.

WEALTH IS IMPORTANT

In middle income countries, wealthier individuals are more likely to prepare to move away.
In high income countries, wealthier individuals are less likely to prepare to move away.
In low income countries, personal wealth does not influence the likelihood of moving away.