

Labour mobility and Local and Regional Authorities: benefits, challenges and solutions

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Key findings (1)

- Nearly 34 million migrants, **14.3 million EU migrants**
- EU citizens acquire **new citizenship** primarily in Germany, the United Kingdom, Sweden, France, Belgium, Hungary and Italy
- Intra-EU fluxes flow **from the southern and eastern EU regions towards the central and northern ones**
- **Positive net migration fluxes** (including non-EU and within MSs) mainly **involve urban areas**
- **EU foreign migrants** primarily moved for **job-related reasons**
- **15 million people employed in the EU were foreign citizens** (of which 7.2 EU)
- **Highest number of EU foreign citizens in Germany, the United Kingdom, Spain, Italy and France (2006-2014)**

Key findings (2)

- EU15 immigrants are **more highly educated** than both non-EU immigrants and the national population in every country analysed
- The proportion of highly qualified immigrants from the new EU MSs **varies substantially across destination countries**
- 24.5% of total first generation immigrants moved to another EU MS for a short period of time (1-5 years), while approximately half of them moved for a **long time period** (10 years or over)
- **Lack of language skills** seems to be the most challenging barrier

Key findings (3)

- **1.92 million posted workers** in the EU (2014)
- **Poland** is the top sending country; **Germany** is the first receiving country
- **Geographic proximity** plays an important role in postings
- The majority of EU workers **are posted in industrial sector**
- Differentiation in terms of **distribution of postings across economic sectors** between EU15 MSs and EU13+EFTA
- **1.1 million cross-border workers (2014)**
- Majority of cross-border workers are **located in north-western Europe**

Benefits

<i>Regions of destination</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Positive contribution to the skill mix and enhancement of competitiveness➤ Labour shortage reduction➤ Net contribution to the budget of the host region
<i>Regions of origin</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Mobile workers send remittances home➤ Workers may return with more experience, skills and savings
<i>EU internal market</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Increased GDP in the EU➤ Facilitating the flows of trade, investment and innovative ideas
<i>Individual workers</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Better job opportunities➤ More savings if returning home

Challenges and risks

<i>Regions of destination</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Pressure on local services➤ Socio-economic discrimination of mobile workers
<i>Regions of origin</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Outflows of young workers➤ Brain-drain effect
<i>EU internal market</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Persisting legal and administrative barriers to the single market➤ Lack of information about workers' rights➤ Increasing euroscepticism driven by anti-immigration positions
<i>Individual workers</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Language and culture obstacles➤ Institutional and bureaucratic barriers

List of case studies

Case study	Aim of the initiative	Typology of workers	Main benefit	Main challenge
Brainport Talent Centre – Brainport region Eindhoven (NL)	Attract mobile workers	Migrant workers	Positive skill-mix contribution	Pressure on local services
ASTER Talents and Knowledge - IT - Emilia-Romagna Region (IT)		Migrant workers (mainly young)	Facilitation of the flows of innovative ideas	‘Brain-drain’ effect
MobiPro EU (DE)		Migrant workers (mainly young)	Labour shortage reduction	Language and cultural barriers
IT specialist for the Øresund Region (SE+DK)		Cross-border workers, Migrant workers	Facilitation of the flows of innovative ideas (at cross-border level)	Pressure on local services
Academic Incubators of Entrepreneurship – Subcarpathian Region (PL)	Retain local workers	(Potential) Migrant Workers	Increased experience and skills for workers	Outflows of young workers

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The Global Training Programme - Basque Region (ES)	Enhance labour circulation	Migrant workers (mainly young)	Increased experience and skills for workers	Language and cultural barriers
CB Talents (PT)		Migrant workers	Positive skill-mix contribution	'Brain-drain' effect
EURES TransTirolia (AT+IT+CH)		Cross-border workers, Migrant workers	Increased experience and skills for workers	Legal and administrative barriers
TRANSPO Project (IT+FR+RO)		Posted workers, Cross-border workers	Better job opportunities	Socio-economic discrimination of mobile workers
DGB Fair mobility (DE+RO+BG+SI)		Posted workers, Cross-border workers	Better job opportunities	Socio-economic discrimination of mobile workers

Key recommendations

- **Monitor data and information** on migrant workers (both sent and received; posted workers; internal, cross-border, EC level)
- **Publish surveys** at the local level to contrast negativity and growing scepticism
- Identify the **most promising sectors** and ascertain the **territorial needs** in terms of human capital, new talents, innovative ideas and knowledge (KIT study)
- Adopt **supporting and informative tools** – also at the cross-border or inter-regional level – for workers who are posted

Key recommendations

- Establish **partnerships** between the labour offices of the sending and receiving regions (sector oriented)
- **More targeted information** on the intra-EU labour mobility opportunities for job seekers, workers and employers (EURES; Europass; social networks)
- **Encourage workers** to experience labour mobility (summer schools; language course; job trainings)
- Create **inter-regional business incubators** and networks of entrepreneurship
- Develop more **programmes to re-integrate and attract** emigrated workers (administrative simplification for investment)