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Summaries and Bios



Self-fulfilled prophecies: Latin American and African borders and flows to Europe.

Dr. Andreu Domingo, Deputy Director of the Center d'Estudis Demogràfics (UAB), and President of the Association of Historical Demography (ADEH).

Summary:

During the acceleration of migratory movements that began at the end of the 20th century, coinciding with globalization, various migratory systems that originated in Latin America and Africa were consolidated or created. The main destinations were the United States and the countries of the European Union, respectively. The growth of these flows was related from the beginning with the dynamics and demographic structure of the countries of origin and their contrast with that of the receiving countries. This allowed for the legitimization of migration policies focused on the increasingly restrictive control of borders. A demographic analysis of this process and comparative demographic situations between Latin America and Africa, however, shows very diverse and complex situations that resist a simplistic model. After the recession of 2008, the migratory systems established between the different diaspora countries have demonstrated their resilience, introducing notable changes in the sociodemographic characteristics of the protagonists. Using the United Nations data on migration and population projections, these new trends will be identified.

Bio

PhD in Sociology, researcher and Deputy Director of the Center d'Estudis Demogràfics (CED) and associate professor at the Department of Geography of the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB). President of the Association of Historical Demography (ADEH). Principal Investigator of the Group of Studies of Demography and Migrations (GEDEM, <http://gedemced.uab.cat/es>), recognized as a research group consolidated by the Generalitat de Catalunya. Specialized in international migration, family formation and population theory. No. ORCID: 0000-0003-3270-1939.



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The contemporary migratory dynamic in the Mesoamerican system and Europe: structural processes, legal channels and emerging routes.

Dra. Luciana Gandini, UNAM Researcher and Coordinator of the SUDIMER of the UNAM.

Summary:

In the current configuration of the processes of migration, reception and integration, new patterns are emerging. In particular, two at the macro level are shaping the current conditions of international migration in the regions. The first one arises from the hardening of the United States border for both documented and undocumented crossings that began in the 1980s and has intensified since then. This has led to the creation of new routes and destinations not only for Mexican migrants but also for the Latin American region as a whole. As a result, the risk and cost of the migratory journey, as well as arrests and deportations, have increased. This pattern of hardening and expulsions is also being replicated in Mexico and other Mediterranean countries. This is how migratory dynamics identify emerging destinations that test the regulatory frameworks for the protection of migrants from Nation States.

Bio

PhD in Social Science from El Colegio de México. Principal Investigator in the area of Sociology of Law of the Institute of Legal Research and Coordinator of the University Seminar on Studies on Internal Displacement, Migration, Exile and Repatriation (SUDIMER), both of UNAM. She is associated with the Institutional Research Line "Rights, Migrations and Mobilities" (IIJ-UNAM) and founder of the Migrare Thematic Network "Migrations and Mobility" (CONACyT). She is the author and coordinator of several books, and several chapters and articles in specialized scientific journals. In recent years her research has been related to the issues: international migration, development and human rights; return migration; voluntary and involuntary migrations, forced migration; labor markets, qualitative and quantitative social research methods.



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Democratizing Sending Countries? Political Regime, International Migration, and Political Participation

Dra. Elena Sánchez-Montijano, Senior Research Fellow CIDOB (Barcelona Centre for International Affairs).

Summary:

There is growing literature on the consequences of international migration on the political commitment of families and individuals remaining in countries of origin. The main finding is that contact with relatives living abroad has a positive effect on electoral participation in the home country. However, previous studies have analysed only certain countries or just one region, meaning that the external validity of the findings is limited and does not explain the (political) diversity of sending migration countries. To what extent are the political effects of international migration conditioned by the political regimes of home countries? We intend to demonstrate that the lower the level of democracy in the origin country, the greater the effect of contact with relatives living abroad on citizens' electoral participation will be.

We test this hypothesis using original data collected in countries with different political regimes in two regions of the world: Latin America (with information coming from "The Americas and the World" project in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, and Peru) and South and East Mediterranean (with information coming from the "SAHWA Youth Survey 2016" in Algeria, Egypt, Lebanon, Morocco and Tunisia).

Bio:

Senior Research Fellow in the area of migration at Barcelona Centre for International Affairs (CIDOB) and lecturer at the Political Science Department of Barcelona University. She holds a PhD in Political and Social Science from the Pompeu Fabra University. Currently, she is co-director of the Migrant Integration Policy Index project (MIPEX) and researcher at National Integration Evaluation Mechanism project (NIEM), which analyses refugee policies in the EU. Furthermore, she is researcher at the Common European Asylum System Evaluation project (CEASEVAL), funded by the Horizon2020 programme. She was visiting researcher at the Centre on Migration, Policy and Society (COMPAS) at Oxford University, and the Center for Ethnic and Migration Studies (CEDEM) at Université de Liège. Her main areas of interest are migrants integration policies in the EU and transnationalism processes.