Presenting NORFACE

Migration in Europe: Social, economic, cultural and policy dynamics
Migration in Europe: Social, economic, cultural and policy dynamics is a NORFACE research programme.

New Opportunities for Research Funding Agency Cooperation in Europe (NORFACE) is a partnership of national research funding agencies in Europe dedicated to leading and developing opportunities for scientists in the area of social and behavioural sciences.

NORFACE plays an important part in responding to the grand societal challenges by promoting research of the highest quality, sharing best practices among research funders and especially by making international collaboration between social scientists in Europe possible. From challenges brought on by migration and inequality to preparing for the impact of an aging society, researchers in the social sciences in Europe are looking at the behaviour of individuals and groups, and the dynamics of institutions and societies within Europe to understand and address these societal challenges.

NORFACE offers distinctive opportunities for researchers by developing common research funding instruments, thus opening new roads for facilitating and building high quality transnational networks of research collaboration in the area of social and behavioural sciences.

Migration in Europe: Social, economic, cultural and policy dynamics

Migration is currently at the top of the European agenda due to the large-scale flows of asylum seekers. At the same time, migration has been part of Europe’s history, evidenced by Europe’s substantial share of immigrant (first and second generation) populations. To engage fruitfully with these diverse realities, Europe is in dire need for high-quality research on migration to develop coherent migration policies. The NORFACE Migration programme provided largescale, comparative, multi-disciplinary and multi-level research, offering valuable insights on migration in Europe - at the national, European and international level.

The purpose of this brochure is to give insight in the objectives, impact, organisation and research projects of the NORFACE Migration programme.
1. Objectives and outline

The programme emphasised three main themes: Migration, Integration, and Cohesion and Conflict. These areas and the issues were not intended as separate phenomena but as parts of a more general social process. Projects that focussed on innovation in the area of data and methods were specifically encouraged.

The objectives of the programme were:

• to advance globally excellent theoretical and methodological disciplinary, inter-disciplinary and comparative research on migration which builds synergistically on a pan-European basis,
• to take advantage of and develop the present informal laboratory of experience, knowledge and data which migration in Europe currently presents,
• to motivate and support excellence and capacity building for research on migration on across-national basis throughout the NORFACE countries,
• to develop understanding and promote research-based knowledge and insight into migration for issues of societal, practical and policy relevance, with theoretical foundations but worked on jointly with relevant users and experts.

After a two staged assessment procedure of 240 outline proposals and 45 full proposals, 12 research projects were funded. Projects ranged from € 500,000 tot € 4 million. Having started in 2009, the projects finished in 2014.

2. Impact

Bringing together migration researchers in Europe

While research on migration in Europe was quite fragmented, the NORFACE Migration programme successfully brought together researchers on migration from various European countries and from different disciplines to stimulate cross-fertilisation. As a result, the Migration programme has fostered a global debate among migration researchers, with a specific focus on European migration research. Various new collaborations among migration researchers around the world have been established, enabling knowledge creation on the topic of (European) migration.

Novel data

Primary data collection resulted in various unique, large-scale and publically available datasets that allow for comparative research (e.g. cross-national, multi-ethnic, longitudinal, multi-actor, matched samples). This, combined with the harmonisation of the data infrastructure in Europe, allows for further enhancing the evidence base for policy formulation. Additionally, the projects have used unique, underexplored data sets that are mainly administrative in nature and typically cover the entire population. The unique scope of these data made it possible not only to study the evolution of labour market outcomes of immigrants, but also focus on broader aspects such as the school performance of immigrant children, health, fertility, crime, marriage and residential choices.
**Implications**

To stimulate connectedness between the policy world and researchers, the various projects of the NORFACE Migration programme have engaged policy makers at different stages throughout the research process. The substantive research that came out of the NORFACE Migration programme informs debates on demographic patterns and determinants of (temporary) migration, return migration, integration, well-being, welfare, and the role of migration policies.

This means that the programme resulted in a more complete picture of migration flows in Europe. This avoids the over-counting of migrants and underreporting of emigrants in population data. Moreover, the cross-national studies that have been carried out have allowed for a more thorough examination of the role of European national contexts, underlying the importance of the role of national integration and migration policies, migration histories and labour market institutions.

**3. Programme Coordinator**

Professor Christian Dustmann (University College London) was appointed as Programme Coordinator for this programme. The task of a NORFACE Programme Coordinator is to develop the community-building, communication and dissemination dimension of the programme.

**4. Knowledge exchange**

A number of activities were initiated to foster knowledge exchange among projects, and to share knowledge and insights of the programme to stakeholders. Several high level conferences and workshops were organised which provided the ideal forum for research from all over the world to exchange knowledge and new ideas. The “Migration: Global Development, New Frontiers” conference held in 2013 was a huge success and one of the largest gatherings on the subject of migration. Researchers from 19 disciplines were brought together at this event, which was attended by 500 participants and featured both academic output and high profile policy events.

The NORFACE Migration Discussion Paper and COMPAST Series enables research team members to make their work available to a wide audience interested in migration. A specific programme website was developed. Also on a project level, policy briefs were published and workshops and presentations with policy makers initiated.
5. Funding

This programme was funded by funding agencies in several countries and the European Commission under the ERA-NET scheme:

- Austrian Science Fund (FWF)
- Danish Social Science Research Council (DSSRC)
- Estonian Science Foundation (EstSF)
- Academy of Finland (AKA)
- Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG)
- Icelandic Centre for Research (RANNIS)
- Irish Research Council for the Humanities & Social Sciences (IRCHSS)
- Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO)
- Research Council of Norway (RCN)
- Foundation for Science and Technology (FST), Portugal
- Slovenian Research Agency (ARRS)
- Swedish Research Council (VR)
- Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), United Kingdom

Launched in January 2004, the NORFACE network is the result of a successful bid for funding to the European Commission's 6th Framework Programme within the ERA-NET scheme.

6. Overview of the research projects

Twelve transnational research projects were funded in the NORFACE Research programme “Migration in Europe: Social, Economic, Cultural and Policy Dynamics”.

1. CHOICES Understanding Migrants' Choices  
   Prof. Jackline Wahba, University of Southampton (United Kingdom)

2. CILS4EU Children of Immigrants Longitudinal Survey in Four European Countries  
   Prof. Frank Kalter, University of Mannheim (Germany)

3. IMEM Integrated Modeling of European Migration  
   Prof. James Raymer, University of Southampton (United Kingdom)

4. 2000 Families 2000 Families: Migration Histories of Turks in Europe  
   Dr Ayse Guveli, University of Essex (United Kingdom)

5. MIDIREDIE Migrant Diversity and Regional Disparity in Europe  
   Prof. Peter Nijkamp, VU University of Amsterdam (The Netherlands)
6. **MI3 Migration: Integration, Impact and Interaction**  
Prof. Jonathan Wadsworth, CReAM, University College London (United Kingdom)

7. **NODES Nordic welfare states and the dynamics and effects of ethnic residential segregation**  
Prof. Mari Vaattovaara, University of Helsinki (Finland)

8. **SCIP Causes and Consequences of Early Socio-Cultural Integration Processes among New Immigrants in Europe**  
Prof. Claudia Diehl, University of Konstanz (Germany)

9. **SIMCUR Social Integration of Migrant Children: Uncovering Family and School Factors Promoting Resilience**  
Prof. Birgit Leyendecker, Ruhr University Bochum (Germany)

10. **TCRAf-EU Transnational child-raising arrangements between Africa and Europe**  
Prof. Valentina Mazzucato, Maastricht University (The Netherlands)

11. **TEMPO Temporary Migration, Integration and the Role of Policies**  
Prof. Giovanni Facchini, University of Nottingham (United Kingdom)

12. **THEMIS Theorizing the Evolution of European Migration Systems**  
Prof. Oliver Bakewell, University of Oxford (United Kingdom)

1. **CHOICES Understanding Migrants’ Choices**  
The CHOICES project examined the key factors influencing migrants’ choices in the migration processes. Several sub-themes were investigated: 1) return migration, i.e. migrants’ choice to migrate temporarily or permanently; 2) undocumented migration, relating to migrants’ decision to migrate legally or not; 3) income/consumption, scrutinizing the wage gap between migrants and natives; 4) networks, considering the role of migrants’ social networks on their labour market outcomes; and 5) polices, concentrating on the relationship between welfare states, immigration policies, and the composition of migrant flows.

Migrants’ choices are driven by incentives and constraints. In addition to gaining insight in the factors that shape these choices, the CHOICES project also focused on the economic and social outcomes of migrants’ choices. Using theoretical modelling and econometric estimation techniques, this project contributed both theoretically and methodologically to the migration literature. Geographically, the project covered a destination country perspective by comparing various EU countries, as well as an origin country perspective looking at countries such as Egypt and Mexico.

*Project leader: Dr. Jackline Wahba, University of Southampton (United Kingdom)  
Partners: Queen Mary University and the University of Southampton (United Kingdom), Westphalia Wilhelms-University Munster (Germany) and Stockholm University (Sweden)*
2. CILS4EU Children of Immigrants. A Longitudinal Study in Four European Countries

The CILS4EU project has established the first comprehensive and fully standardised panel study on the structural, social and cultural integration of the second generation in Europe. Between 2010 and 2014, three waves of data collection have taken place in four European countries: England, Germany, the Netherlands and Sweden. Children of immigrants aged 14 years and their majority peers have been interviewed and followed over these four years, covering a major formative period in their lives.

Additionally, the parents of these children were surveyed during the first wave, enabling the study of intergenerational integration processes. This was further complemented with information from the schools: teachers were interviewed during the first wave and classroom networks were mapped to unravel friendships and other peer relationships. Finally, the first wave also covered cognitive and language ability tests.

The CILS4EU project has also laid the foundation for expanding this panel survey, and already future waves and additional countries have been added. This way, the CILS4EU project created an enduring infrastructure to enable future research on intergenerational integration of immigrants in Europe.

Project leader: Prof. Frank Kalter, University of Leipzig (Germany)
Partners: University of Mannheim and the University of Cologne (Germany), University of Oxford (United Kingdom), Stockholm University (Sweden), University of Utrecht and University of Amsterdam (The Netherlands)

3. IMEM Integrated Modeling of European Migration

The IMEM project has resulted in a data base on international migration flows in Europe. This database overcomes the shortcomings and limitations of existing data sources on international migration in Europe, and thus allows researchers and policy makers to a better understanding of the causes and consequences of international migration.

The IMEM team consisted of migration data collection and modelling experts. They used publicly available information on migration flows and complemented this information with origin and destination data to estimate missing information. The end result is a publicly available database covering the period 2002-2008 and allows examining the migration flows in 31 countries in Europe to and from the rest of the world. The flows can be presented by country of origin, country of destination, age and sex.

Project leader: Dr James Raymer, University of Southampton (United Kingdom)
Partners: Southampton Statistical Sciences Research Institute and the ESRC Centre for Population Change (United Kingdom), University of Oslo (Norway) and the Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute
4. 2000 Families: Migration Histories of Turks in Europe

The 2000 Families project studied the multi-generational transmission of social, cultural, religious and economic resources and behaviors of Turkish immigrants in Europe and their non-migrant counterparts in Turkey. The research began with 2000 Turkish men born between 1920 and 1945. Of these 2000, 1600 migrated to European countries and 400 stayed in Turkey. The research not only followed the lives of these migrants, non-migrants and returnees, it also included the lives of their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, regardless of their current whereabouts.

As a result, the 2000 Families project created a unique dataset on the process of international migration from Turkey as well as processes of intergenerational mobility and integration. It captures information on about 50,000 respondents, distributed over four generations.

Project leader: Dr Ayse Güveli, University of Essex (United Kingdom)
Partners: VU University Amsterdam and the Radboud University (The Netherlands), Chemnitz University of Technology (Germany), London School of Economics, University of Bristol and University of Essex (United Kingdom)

5. MIDI-REDIE Migrant Diversity and Regional Disparity in Europe

The MIDI-REDIE project provided insight in the role of (sociodemographic) diversity among migrants on socioeconomic outcomes. Two perspectives were considered: the role of a diverse society on people’s lives as well as the impact of being diverse (i.e. part of a minority group). Taking into account that migrants typically settle in specific regions, mainly metropolitan areas, the analyses in this project are mostly carried out on a regional level.

Focusing on East-West migration patterns five different European countries were included, which differ in terms of migration flows, population size, economy size, welfare systems and migration policies: Estonia, Finland, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. Additionally, European-wide analyses were also carried out, using the European Labour Force Survey (EU-LFS) and the European Union Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC). These comprehensive European studies were complemented with case studies on Finish and Estonian migration, for which micro level data on migrants were collected.

Project leader: Prof. Peter Nijkamp, VU University Amsterdam (The Netherlands)
Partners: University of Waikato (New Zealand), University of Essex (United Kingdom), University of Tartu (Estonia), Labour Institute for Economic Research (Finland), VU University Amsterdam (The Netherlands), University Duisburg and the Institute for Employment Research (IAB) (Germany)

6. MI3 Migration: Integration, Impact and Interaction

The main objective of the MI3 project was to contribute to the immigration literature by adding economic analyses of the consequences of immigration. Using the best administrative data sources, novel datasets and innovative methods, this project identified causal effects of immigration (rather than correlations or associations).

The focus of the MI3 project corresponded with the three main themes of the NORFACE Migration programme: 1) integration, 2) the causes and consequences of migration, and 3) conflict and cohesion. The team made use of natural experiments: using unforeseen institutional changes that impose different conditions on one group but not on others, allowing for a comparison of outcomes and to identify causal effects.
In addition to working with a team of migration economists in Europe, from the United Kingdom, Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Finland, and Germany, the MI3 also collaborated with researchers overseas, notably from Canada (University of British Columbia).

**Project leader:** Prof. Jonathan Wadsworth, CReAM, University College London (United Kingdom)
**Partners:** Stockholm University (Sweden), University of Oslo (Norway), Aarhus University and KORA, Danish Institute of Governmental Research (Denmark), Humboldt University (Germany), Government Institute for Economic Research (Finland), and University of British Columbia (Canada)

7. **NODES Nordic welfare states and the dynamics and effects of ethnic residential segregation**

The **NODES project** investigated the patterns and consequences of ethnic residential segregation in four Nordic countries: Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden. The project particularly focused on the relationship between welfare state policies and trajectories of social and spatial integration.

Both qualitative and quantitative methods were applied. Qualitative interviews were carried out to shed light on the housing strategies and preferences, while quantitative methods focused on the causes and impact of ethnic segregation by statistically examining longitudinal housing careers and international migration flows. Four themes were covered: 1) the relationships between Nordic welfare systems and the patterns of ethnic residential segregation; 2) housing patterns of ethnic minority groups; 3) housing patterns and choices of the native-born populations; and 4) the dynamics of ethnic segregation from the immigrants’ perspective, taking housing ambitions, efforts and preferences into account.

**Project leader:** Prof. Mari Vaattovaara, University of Helsinki (Finland)
**Partners:** University of Helsinki and the National Institute for Health and Welfare (Finland), Aalborg University (Denmark), Oslo University and the Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research (Norway) and Uppsala University (Sweden)

8. **SCIP Causes and Consequences of Early Socio-Cultural Integration Processes Among New Immigrants in Europe**

Focusing on new immigrants in four Western European countries – Germany, the Netherlands, Ireland and the United Kingdom – the **SCIP project** studied the social-cultural integration trajectories of new immigrants, i.e. recently arrived immigrants, in these countries. In all countries, recently arrived Poles were surveyed. In Germany and the Netherlands, Turks were also included, and additionally, Moroccans in the Netherlands and Pakistanis in the United Kingdom. Particular focus lied with the identification strategies chosen by the newcomers and how these strategies relate to their subsequent socio-cultural integration patterns.

**Project leader:** Prof. Claudia Diehl, University of Gottingen (Germany)
**Partners:** Bamberg University (Germany), London School of Economics and Political Science (United Kingdom), and the Essex University (United Kingdom), Trinity College Dublin (Ireland), Chemnitz University (Germany), The Economic and Social Research Institute (Ireland), Utrecht University, Radboud University Nijmegen and the Netherlands Institute for Social Research (The Netherlands)
9. SIMCUR Social Integration of Migrant Children: Uncovering Family and School Factors Promoting Resilience

The SIMCUR project investigated developmental resilience of immigrant children in three European countries: Germany, the Netherlands and Norway. The project hereby focused on children from Turkish origin, looking specifically at their transition from primary to secondary school. By concentrating at these educational transitions, the SIMCUR projects aimed to provide a developmental perspective to the processes of social integration among immigrant children.

To successfully make the necessary transitions in an educational system is seen as a major indicator of social integration and psychosocial adaptation. Studying these transitions contributed to the literature on child development in general, and to research on resilience in migrant children in particular. These processes of developmental resilience were studied at multiple levels: of the individual child, the family, the school, and the community. The comparison between three European countries also facilitated examining the impact of wider societal influences on the social integration of immigrant children.

The SIMCUR project collaborated with scholars, both from Europe as well as from the United States and Canada. This collaboration led to various publications, among which a handbook on the development of minority children, edited by Professor Birgit Leyendecker (Ruhr University Bochum) and Professor Natasha Cabrera (University of Maryland).

Project leader: Dr Birgit Leyendecker, Ruhr University Bochum, (Germany)
Partners: Leiden University (The Netherlands) and Norwegian Institute of Public Health (Norway)

10. TCRAf-EU Transnational child-raising arrangements between Africa and Europe

The TCRAf-EU project investigated the dynamics of transnational child-raising arrangements – the practice whereby family members live geographically separated across borders as a result of migration of one of the family members. The project focused on three dimensions of these transnational child-raising arrangements: 1) how transnational child-raising arrangements influence the life chances of children and their caregivers that remained in the origin country, and their migrant parents in the destination county, 2) how transnational child-raising arrangements are being affected by migration laws in Europe and by the institution of child fosterage in Africa, and 3) how different origin and destination contexts shape the functioning of transnational child-raising arrangements.

These dimensions were studied through 4 matched case studies, matching European destination countries and African origin countries: 1) Portugal – Angola, 2) the Netherlands – Angola, 3) Ireland – Nigeria, and 4) the Netherlands – Nigeria. The project is linked to a similar project on transnational child-raising arrangements between the Netherlands and Ghana (funded by the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO)). All case studies shared an analytical framework and applied the same methods, facilitating cross-case comparisons.

Project leader: Prof. Valentina Mazzucato, Maastricht University, (The Netherlands)
Partners: Fafo Institute for Applied International Studies (Norway), University of Lisbon (Portugal) and University College Cork (United Kingdom)
11. TEMPO Temporary Migration, integration and the role of Policies

The TEMPO project focused on the phenomena of temporary and return migration. Several subtopics were studied within this project: the causes and consequences of temporary migration, the relationship between the duration of migration and the integration of both economic and noneconomic migrants, and the process of policy formation considering temporary and return migration. Both an origin and destination country perspective was applied in the TEMPO project.

To study these topics, the TEMPO project made use of existing datasets, but also collected primary data among immigrants in European countries: on temporary Polish immigrants in the United Kingdom and Romanians in Italy. Additionally, the TEMPO project collected and harmonised stock data from 20 OECD countries on migration, gender and educational attainment, which has been made publicly available.

Project leader: Prof. Giovanni Facchini, Centre for Economic Policy Research, (United Kingdom)
Partners: NOVA University of Lisbon (Portugal), Malmoe University and the Stockholm University (Sweden), University Linz, The Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies and the University of Vienna (Austria), Institute for Employment Research, University of Munich, Goethe-University Frankfurt, Ifo Institute and the Hamburg Institute of International Economics (Germany), Swansea University and the Institute For Fiscal Studies (United Kingdom), Trinity College Dublin (Ireland), Copenhagen Business School (Denmark) and the Tilburg University (The Netherlands)

12. THEMIS Theorizing the Evolution of European Migration Systems

The THEMIS project investigated how patterns of migration to Europe develop – or not – into established migration systems. The THEMIS project aimed to contribute to the current literature on migration dynamics, looking at why people migrate and why some of the initial moves to Europe result in significant migration systems and why other initial moves stagnate or disappear.

The project adopted a comparative approach by comparing different origin and destination countries. Migrants and non-migrants were surveyed in three selected origin countries: Brazil, Morocco and Ukraine. Immigrants from these three countries were surveyed in selected cities in four destination countries: the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal and the United Kingdom.

Project leader: Prof. Robin Cohen, University of Oxford, (United Kingdom)
Partners: Erasmus University Rotterdam (The Netherlands), Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO) (Norway) and University of Lisbon (Portugal)

For additional information and further detail about this NORFACE programme and its projects, please see the NORFACE Migration programme website and in particular the NORFACE Compact Series.
Contact us

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