Special Session Proposal

Drivers and impacts of migration: new insights on the role of local labour markets, human capital, personality and (family) networks

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Abstract

The movement of people across space, or sometimes rather the lack thereof, is now considered to be of paramount importance for the dynamics of regional disparities and for the redistribution of labour and human capital in particular.

Migrants are known to be a highly selective group according to age, education, skills and gender. Recent evidence suggests that personality, networks and migration history are key in reinforcing the mobility of individuals. There are benefits and costs related to the individual's embeddedness in local societies. The benefits include network effects and avoidance of the direct and indirect cost of migration. The costs however include limited opportunity to escape adverse local circumstances.

Once workers decide to migrate, their destinations are often favourable regions and cities, leading to potential losses for the home regions. What does the influx but also the outflow mean to the individuals that move and who stay. Further, is there a specific impact for its families, to the employer, city or region which enjoy an inflow or outflow of people?

The main aim of this special session is to look at the phenomenon of migration, its drivers, costs and benefits and it's impact from a variety of perspectives.

Submissions are welcome that focus on issues such as
- Regional growth perspectives and welfare,

- Gains and costs of out- and immigration for states, regions, firms and individuals
- Labour market effects and potential labour shortages,
- Human capital and the re-distribution of people in space,
- Potential discrimination and other negative effects,
- Psychological aspects and the acceptance of migrants,
- Cultural, social and economics integration from the perspective of migrants and local communities,
- Individual decision modelling and family attachment, or
- any other issue related to drivers or impacts of interregional migration in the home and host city or region.