

THE EFFECTS OF MIGRATION

International migration has effects or consequences that can be classified as economic, social or cultural.

Economic effects

When the economic impact of migration is measured, one of the positive effects occurs in the countries where migrants come from. A considerable part of the **savings** of migrant workers is often sent to relatives in their home countries.

Immigrants also benefit the economies of destination countries. They increase the **supply of labour** and stimulate economic expansion. Immigrants are often young and can do many different types of jobs. They help revitalise the domestic labour market and **increase consumption**. Migrant workers also help economies by paying **taxes** in the host country.

Social effects

Many immigrants have academic or professional qualifications from their country of origin. This benefits to the **host country** but makes the country of origin poorer.

Immigrants can also change **demographic patterns** in a decisive way. This has happened in many European countries with ageing population. Young immigrants, who tend to have more children than the native population, have contributed to increasing **birth rates**.

Immigrants in many cities in developed countries are **concentrated or isolated in neighbourhoods** together with other people from the same region. This means full integration becomes difficult.

Cultural effects

There are challenges and difficulties related to the **integration** of immigrants in the host society.

When immigrants arrive, they often bring languages, traditions, values and cultures, that are very different to those of the native population. Immigration allows contact with different cultures and their possible integration with local traditions. Society, as a whole, **benefits from cultural diversity**.