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Analysis of Economic Social and Political Factors of Labour Migration

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Abstract: Labour migration represents a complex phenomenon in which individuals analyse their life opportunities to have better economic, social, and political conditions. This process, driven by the desire for higher incomes, improved educational prospects, and a better quality of life, can also be result of political instability and armed conflicts. On one hand, the economic benefits that migrants bring contribute to the development of destination countries through innovation and by problem solving such as labour shortages or the lack of specific educational profiles in the labour market. On the other hand, inadequately developed integration mechanisms can create challenges in terms of social cohesion and access to institutions that provide basic needs such as healthcare, legal protection, and education. Countries of origin, confronted with the "brain drain" effect, are increasingly relying on reintegration programs to reclaim their valuable human capital. The unification of migration policies, particularly within the European Union, is essential for establishing a coordinated approach to the protection of migrants' rights and for addressing challenges associated with migrants arriving from conflict-affected areas. This research also highlights the need for comprehensive strategies that integrate economic, social, and political factors, thereby stimulating sustainable social and economic development.

Keywords: Labour migration, "brain drain", migration drivers, migration policy

1. Introduction

Labour migration represents a complex and dynamic process that involves the movement of the working-age population from one geographical area to another in search of better

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economic, social, or professional opportunities. This phenomenon has deep roots in human history. Labour migration has existed since the very beginnings of organized human communities. Even in prehistoric times, people migrated in search of better living conditions, food, and security. During the ancient period, migration was driven by the development of trade, conquests, and the expansion of large empires such as the Roman and Persian empires. Slaves, craftsmen, and soldiers were often forced to relocate to serve the economic and political interests of their rulers.

In the Middle Ages, migration was associated with the feudal system, where peasants often moved from one estate to another in search of better working conditions. Additionally, merchants and artisans traveled between cities and regions, contributing to the development of local economies. Large-scale migrations also occurred due to wars, epidemics, and natural disasters.

In the modern era, labour migration has become a key factor in shaping global economic and social trends, with a significant impact on labour markets, demographic changes, and social structures worldwide. According to data from international organizations, the number of international migrants continues to grow, with developed countries often being destinations for workers from less developed regions. This trend has been driven by globalization, technological advancement, and increasing demand for skilled labour.

One of the most important global trends is the rise in the migration of highly educated workers, known as the "brain drain." Developing countries often lose professionals who leave in search of better working conditions and a higher standard of living, which can negatively affect their economic and social development. At the same time, developed countries benefit from the influx of skilled labour, which contributes to their technological and economic progress.

Although there is no internationally agreed legal definition of international migration, the United Nations Expert Group on Migration Statistics has developed a statistical definition to ensure that countries measure the same phenomenon. From a statistical point of view, international migration is defined as a change of residence from one country to another, encompassing both spatial and temporal dimensions. Although there are various factors or reasons for migration—forced or voluntary, regular or irregular migration, family reunification or employment—they are not essential for the statistical definition of international migration. Accordingly, an international migrant is considered to be any person who has changed their place of residence from one country to another, regardless of the nature or reason for the migration. (Migration Data Portal, n.d.)

This paper will examine key aspects of labour migration, including its causes, consequences, and global trends. It will highlight both the positive and negative sides of migration faced by destination and origin countries alike and provide insight into possible solutions and recommendations that countries are implementing to improve migration governance in modern society.

2. Materials and Methods

This paper employs a qualitative and descriptive research approach to analyze the economic effects of labour migration. Data was collected through the review of existing literature, including reports from international organizations such as the ILO, World Bank, and UN, as well as academic studies and policy papers. Comparative analysis was used to examine trends between sending and receiving countries. The study also incorporates statistical data to illustrate the scale and economic impact of labour migration globally. Case studies of selected countries were included to provide deeper insight into specific economic outcomes. The goal of the methodology is to identify patterns and offer evidence-based conclusions regarding the costs and benefits of labour migration.

3. Results and Discussion

Labour migration has significant and multifaceted economic effects on both sending and receiving countries. For receiving countries, migrant workers often fill labour shortages, particularly in sectors such as construction, healthcare, agriculture, and domestic work. This contributes to economic growth, increases productivity, and supports demographic stability in aging societies. Migrants also contribute through taxes and consumption, which further stimulates the economy. However, concerns are sometimes raised about downward pressure on wages and increased competition for jobs among low-skilled native workers, although empirical evidence on this is mixed.

For sending countries, labour migration can provide substantial economic benefits in the form of remittances, which often represent a critical source of household income and national revenue. These funds can improve living standards, support education and healthcare, and reduce poverty levels. On the other hand, the emigration of highly educated and skilled professionals—commonly referred to as "brain drain"—can negatively affect long-term development by weakening the domestic labour force and slowing down innovation. In response, some countries are adopting strategies to retain talent or encourage the return of skilled migrants through diaspora engagement policies.

Overall, while labour migration poses certain challenges, its economic benefits can be maximized through well-designed policies that balance labour market needs, protect migrant rights, and foster development in both origin and destination countries.

Causes of Labour Migration

Labour migration is a complex phenomenon that cannot be viewed through a onedimensional lens. In today's globalized world, the decision of an individual or group to leave their home country is driven by multiple causes and motivations. Migration is rarely random; rather, it is often the result of deep-rooted economic, social, and political disparities that shape people's opportunities in life. Regardless of the specific reason, every population movement is essentially also a movement of labour, as migrants in destination

countries must rely on employment to secure basic living conditions. Without finding work, integration into society and meeting daily needs would be nearly impossible, making labour a central driver of the migration process. This is especially evident in environments where economic opportunities are the main basis for choosing a destination, and migrants are faced with the challenge of quickly adapting to the labour market in order to achieve a stable standard of living in a new social and economic context.

Economic Factors

The most prominent driver of labour migration is economic factors. In many countries—particularly those struggling with high unemployment rates, low wages, and inadequate working conditions—people are compelled to seek alternative sources of income. The extreme inequality in the distribution of wealth between developed and developing countries creates significant disparities in living standards. Workers from countries with limited opportunities often choose to migrate in search of better working conditions and higher earnings. Developed countries not only offer more stable labour markets but also provide opportunities for professional development that are often lacking in migrants' countries of origin.

Globalization has further accelerated this process, as technological advancements and reduced communication barriers have made it easier to access information about global labour markets. Today, through the internet and international recruitment agencies, workers have access to job opportunities abroad. This mobility is especially pronounced among highly educated professionals, whose departure—known as the "brain drain"—poses a significant challenge for sending countries, but at the same time presents an opportunity for destination economies that aim to attract skilled workers through favorable working conditions and innovative incentives. Economic motives, therefore, are not solely about short-term financial gain, but also about long-term prospects for stable economic development and personal advancement in a country that offers better opportunities.

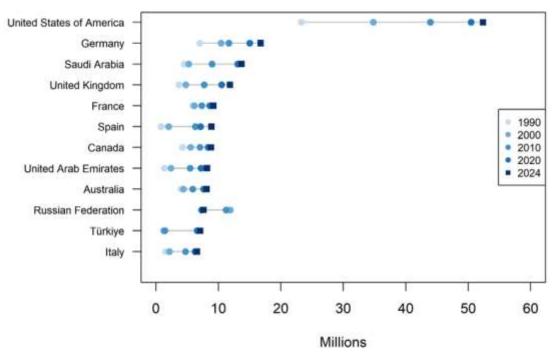
In 2024 (Figure 1), the United States hosted the largest number of international migrants, recording an impressive 52.4 million individuals. This figure reaffirms the U.S. position as the leading global migration destination, driven by its longstanding economic appeal. Germany ranked second, with 16.8 million migrants, highlighting the strong interest in the European labour market model, which offers high standards of social protection and economic stability.

Following these two leading destinations were:

- Saudi Arabia 13.7 million, where migrant inflows are largely linked to investments in the oil industry and infrastructure projects;
- United Kingdom 11.8 million, known for its dynamic labour market;
- France -9.2 million, attracting migrants through its economic opportunities.

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Figure 1 – Number of international migrants in the 12 leading destination countries, 1990–2024



Source: United Nations (2025)

The chart includes destination countries with 5 million or more international migrants.

Labour demand is becoming increasingly frequent, especially in sectors with challenging working conditions such as healthcare. The COVID-19 pandemic had a negative impact on this sector, which continues to suffer from workforce shortages. Other sectors, such as construction, information and communication technologies (ICT), and transportation, are facing similar issues. Transportation has long been affected by a worker shortage crisis. As the number of customer orders continues to grow, especially in the post-pandemic period, the demand for transport workers is steadily increasing, creating a mismatch between supply and demand.

Germany addressed the labour shortage issue as early as 2016 by introducing a special regulation known as the Western Balkans Regulation. This regulation allowed citizens of the Western Balkans—including those from Serbia—to access the German labour market more easily, provided they had a binding job offer and obtained approval from the Federal Employment Agency. The long-term validity of this regulation highlights its positive impact and the ongoing need for additional labour.

The negative effects of insufficient qualified labour are also reflected in the EU's initiative to introduce a new framework called the "European Skills Agenda", aimed at improving the quality of education and training, and promoting lifelong learning. The emphasis is placed on increasing the number of students in STEM fields (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) and overcoming gender and social inequalities observed in

these disciplines. The new plan aims to improve citizens' employability, address the skills and labour shortages, increase business productivity, and ultimately enhance the EU's competitiveness.

Specifically, the European Skills Agenda aims to:

- Help people acquire basic and advanced skills;
- Encourage regular upskilling and reskilling;
- Facilitate employment across the EU;
- Attract and retain top talent in Europe;
- Improve the transferability of skills across the EU, thus increasing labour mobility within the Union.

The European Skills Agenda is part of the EU's ongoing plan to support skill development and improve people's lives. By adopting a people-centered approach, the initiative also aims to ensure that the EU remains competitive, backed by a large pool of the best available talent (EURES, 2025).

Equally notable is the fact that there are relevant indicators pointing to a significant increase in the number of foreign workers in Serbia. According to the National Employment Service, around 35,000 work permits were issued to foreign workers in 2022, with the number rising to over 52,000 in 2023. Most of these workers are employed in low-skilled sectors, particularly in construction, which includes major infrastructure projects such as road building, and in the transport sector. The largest number of workers comes from China, Russia, and Turkey, followed by India, Cuba, and neighboring countries. Given that Serbia is a signatory of the Global Compact for Migration, which aims to protect migrants and support sustainable development, it is reasonable to expect that the number of foreign workers will continue to rise in the future (Kamatica, 2024).

According to Predojević-Despić (2010), the initial drivers of international migration often differ significantly from the factors that contribute to its continuation and long-term establishment across time and space. While disparities in income levels, employment opportunities, economic risks, and market expansion initially motivate individuals to migrate, the dynamics of migration evolve as new factors emerge during the migration process itself.

Over time, a set of self-reinforcing mechanisms begins to influence migration patterns independently of the original causes. Among these are the development of migrant networks, which provide social, informational, and logistical support to new migrants; the emergence of institutional frameworks that facilitate the growth of transnational economic activities, such as remittance flows, circular labour migration, and diaspora entrepreneurship; and the transformation of the social and labour context in host countries, where migrants gradually become integrated into the workforce and local communities.

These newly developed conditions serve not only to stabilize existing migration flows but also to encourage their expansion. The growing presence of established migrant

communities lowers the psychological and financial barriers for future migrants, while institutional and policy adaptations in host countries—such as more flexible labour regulations or targeted recruitment programs—further embed migration within the economic and social systems.

Together, these changes give rise to a process known as cumulative causation of migration, whereby each successive wave of migration increases the likelihood of continued movement by creating favorable structural conditions. Migration thus becomes a self-perpetuating process, shaped not only by initial push-and-pull factors but also by the enduring transformations it triggers in both sending and receiving societies.

Brain Drain – Positive and Negative Aspects

"Brain drain" refers to the migration process in which highly educated and skilled individuals leave their home country in search of better working conditions, higher wages, and an improved standard of living abroad. The term was first used by the British Royal Society and described the exodus of scientists from the United Kingdom to the United States and Canada during the 1950s and 1960s (Balmer, 2009). This phenomenon is predominantly observed in countries facing economic, political, or social challenges. The loss of such talent can have long-term negative consequences for innovation, technological development, and the competitiveness of the country of origin. However, it can also bring positive effects to both the destination countries and the country of origin. In this context, establishing mechanisms to facilitate the return of emigrated experts is of vital importance for the home countries.

Serbia's most significant export resource is not steel or raspberries, as is often believed, but its labour force. As many as 15% of people born in Serbia live abroad, which is about five times higher than the global average of 3%. At the same time, remittances from the diaspora significantly contribute to the country's economy, amounting to an impressive 8% of the gross domestic product (Ozden, 2018).

Serbia has a long tradition of emigration, marked by several significant migration waves — from the departure of unskilled workers to Western Europe in the 1960s to politically and economically motivated emigration in the 1990s, during which many highly educated individuals also left the country. Today, the Serbian diaspora is spread worldwide, with two-thirds of emigrants moving to EU countries, and Germany being the main destination for more than 40% of them. Migrant remittances represent a substantial portion of Serbia's GDP, indicating strong ties with the homeland. Geographic proximity and improved travel conditions further encourage short-term and circular migration (Arandarenko, 2020).

Table 2. The positive and negative aspects brought by brain drain (The authors' adaptation)

Positive aspects

· Transfer of Knowledge and Technology

Through the phenomenon known as brain circulation, emigrants bring new knowledge, advanced technologies, and innovative practices back to their home countries via international cooperation or return migration, which can enhance domestic institutions and the economy.

- Economic Remittances and Investments

 Emigrants regularly send remittances that directly support family budgets and local economies.

 Additionally, successful expatriates often invest in projects in their home countries, creating new jobs and stimulating private sector development.
- Global Connectivity
 Migrants establish international networks of
 contacts, providing access to global markets and
 resources. These connections can help promote
 domestic products and services worldwide, as well
 as attract foreign investment.
- · Improvement of Education and Research Systems

The return of experts, enriched with experiences and knowledge gained abroad, can drive reforms in education and scientific research activities, setting new standards of quality and innovation.

Negative aspects

- Loss of Key Human Resources
 The brain drain of highly educated professionals
 reduces the capacity of the home country in critical
 sectors such as science, technology, medicine, and
 education. This loss hinders the development of
 domestic innovations and creates a gap between
 labor market needs and the available workforce.
- Reduced Economic Competitiveness The long-term loss of skilled personnel can slow down economic growth, as the ability to rapidly develop new technologies, innovations, and high-performance industries diminishes. This also leads to lower tax revenues and increased dependence on foreign expertise.
- Demographic and Social Challenges Continued brain drain results in demographic imbalances, especially in sectors like healthcare and education, where the capacity to provide quality public services declines. This further burdens the social welfare system and reduces the overall quality of life.
- Weakening of Institutional Capacities
 The shortage of highly qualified professionals
 affects the functioning of government institutions
 and academic centers, limiting the potential for
 innovative research and technological solutions.
 Consequently, this impacts the country's ability to
 compete globally.
- · Risk of One-Sided Migration Flows If migration becomes predominantly one-way and mechanisms for the return of emigrated experts are not developed, the country faces a permanent loss of potential, which can lead to long-term stagnation in key innovation and development areas.

Brain drain carries both positive and negative aspects. On one hand, the migration of highly educated professionals can stimulate international cooperation, facilitate the transfer of innovations, improve the education system, and contribute to economic development through remittances and investments. On the other hand, inadequate control and the lack of reintegration strategies result in the loss of vital human resources, demographic challenges, and reduced competitiveness of the home country.

The key to successfully managing this phenomenon lies in establishing mechanisms that enable the return and active involvement of emigrated experts in the development of their home country. Strategic programs aimed at strengthening domestic institutions, improving the education system, as well as tax incentives and various forms of subsidies for returnees, can play an active role—balancing private benefits with social welfare.

In line with this, the official platform administered by the Government of the Republic of Serbia, Welcome to Serbia, provides various resources and information about immigration to Serbia. Additionally, at the end of last year, the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Serbia opened a dedicated office for cooperation with Serbian healthcare workers currently working abroad. Thanks to this initiative, 75 healthcare professionals have returned to Serbian medical institutions (Government of the Republic of Serbia, 2025).

Social Aspects

Social factors play a key role in individuals' decisions to leave their home country in search of a better life. These factors relate to all aspects of social life, from education and healthcare to social networks, cultural norms, and values. Below, we will examine in more detail the most significant social factors influencing labor migration flows:

- Social inequality and living standards
 - One of the main drivers of migration is the perception of inequality in the distribution of resources within society. In many countries, especially those with high levels of social inequality, a significant portion of the population lacks access to quality education, healthcare, and social services. These factors directly affect living standards, prompting individuals to seek better opportunities in countries with more developed social policies and fairer social systems. When basic needs—such as education, healthcare, and housing—are not adequately met, moving to countries with a higher standard of living becomes a logical strategy to secure a better quality of life for oneself and one's family.
- Educational factors and opportunities for personal development
 - The quality of education is one of the key social factors influencing migration decisions. In developing countries, the lack of quality educational institutions and limited opportunities for professional development may push young people to seek educational opportunities abroad. Various opportunities offered by destination countries—through formal education as well as acquiring new skills via informal training—significantly contribute to migration flows. Individuals investing in their knowledge and competencies often choose to move to countries that value innovation and expertise, thereby enhancing their prospects for professional growth.
- Family and social ties
 - Social and family connections play a decisive role in migration processes. Individuals who already have relatives or friends abroad are more likely to migrate because existing social ties provide support in navigating a new environment. Diaspora communities often act as a bridge between the home country and the destination country, facilitating integration through various forms of assistance, such as finding jobs, accommodation, and even legal advice. Furthermore, success stories of migrants who have improved their lives abroad motivate others, creating a chain migration effect.
- Security, healthcare, and social protection

Issues of personal security and healthcare are also critical social factors driving labor migration. In countries where health institutions, pension systems, and social protection are underdeveloped, individuals often seek destinations where they can reliably access these services. Better healthcare systems and developed infrastructure significantly improve quality of life and reduce daily risks, serving as additional motivation for migration. Moreover, social protection - which includes support during unemployment or other social crises - makes destination countries more attractive to workers seeking long-term stability.

• Cultural norms and social values

The cultural aspect of migration also carries weight. Social norms, values, and the general perception of a "good life" vary from country to country. Individuals often perceive countries with more liberal social norms as opportunities to realize personal ambitions, enjoy greater freedom of expression, and achieve individual identity. A culture of inclusiveness, tolerance, and pluralism—often found in developed countries—contributes to the attractiveness of those countries for migrants.

• Media influence and societal perception

Today, both the media and social networks play a significant role in shaping public perceptions of opportunities abroad. The globalization of information allows for rapid and wide distribution of images and stories about countries offering exceptional opportunities for work and life. Positive media portrayals and success stories of individuals who have fulfilled their dreams abroad create the impression that migration is the right solution for achieving personal and family ambitions. This constructed imaginary framework of a "better life" influences migration decisions and encourages those who feel limited in various ways in their home countries.

In this context, the Human Freedom Index (HFI) is the most comprehensive freedom index created so far for a globally significant set of countries and jurisdictions, covering 98.8 percent of the world's population. The index ranks countries over a period of more than two decades and uses 86 different indicators of personal and economic freedoms in areas including: Rule of Law, Security and Safety, Movement, Religion, Association, Assembly and Civil Society, Expression and Information, Relations, Size of Government, Legal System and Property Rights, Stable Money, Freedom to Trade Internationally, and Regulation. Based on the HFI, insights can be gained into areas needing improvement.

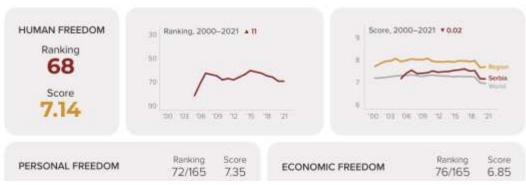
Figure 2. shows the top 10 countries with the highest ratings, while Figure 3. presents Serbia's ranking with a score.

Figure 2. Top 10 countries with the highest ratings

COUNTRY	HUMAN FREEDOM SCORE 2023
Switzerland	9.01
New Zealand	8.88
Denmark	8.83
Ireland	8.79
Sweden	8.75
Estonia	8.75
Iceland	8.73
Luxembourg	8.71
Finland	8.7
Norway	8.58

Figure 3. FGI Serbia

SERBIA EASTERN EUROPE



Ćosić & Poleti (2013) has found that international migration represents a strategy employed by social groups—most commonly households, families, and sometimes even entire communities—during times of economic hardship. Migration becomes a means through which households attempt to cope with structural transformations and market disruptions, a concept rooted in the new economics of migration. Large fluctuations in labor markets within these societies often lead to labor surpluses, while government responses tend to be limited, slow, and not always sufficient. As a result, families are

motivated to secure their livelihood independently, often by sending one or more members abroad to work.

Political factors

Labor migration and contemporary refugee flows are often the result of a combination of political and wartime factors that create unbearable living conditions in migrants' countries of origin. Political repression, authoritarian regimes, conflicts, and wars force people to flee their homelands in search of refuge and safety in countries that offer not only economic opportunities but also protection of human rights.

On the other hand, destination countries face numerous challenges in integrating migrants. A primary challenge is political inclusion. Migrants often arrive from conflict zones with traumatic experiences, which requires a tailored approach to their social integration. If local institutions are not adequately prepared to work with these groups, migrants may face discrimination, social isolation, and limited access to essential services such as education, healthcare, and legal protection.

In addition to institutional difficulties, political factors in destination countries can further complicate the issue. The rise of populist and nationalist movements often leads to societal polarization, where migrants are portrayed as destabilizing forces. Such rhetoric fuels tensions between locals and newcomers, creating an atmosphere of intolerance and prejudice, which in turn hampers integration and weakens social cohesion. In some cases, political initiatives aimed at restricting migration flows lead to tighter border control or restrictions on migrants' right to work, further marginalizing them.

One of the key challenges for destination countries is maintaining a balance between the economic benefits migrants can bring and the social costs of their integration. While migrants often fill labor shortages in critical sectors and bring a strong work ethic, poor integration can lead to the formation of parallel societies, reducing opportunities for collaboration and knowledge exchange. This contributes to rising social segregation and, in extreme cases, ethnic and political conflicts, which further destabilize the social fabric. Migrants are frequently forced to work under inhumane conditions for low wages, which may disrupt social relations by positioning them as cheap labor that takes jobs from locals and drives down labor costs.

A recent example of a migration crisis occurred in August 2024, when several European Union member states, particularly in Eastern Europe, experienced a sharp rise in attempts at illegal border crossings by migrants. In response, countries like Poland and Hungary tightened border controls to prevent mass inflows, which escalated political tensions and posed significant humanitarian challenges. The situation was further complicated by divergent political narratives, often centered around the question of priority—whether to protect national borders and security or to provide humanitarian assistance and ensure the proper integration of migrants.

This event highlighted the complexity of migration flows in modern Europe, clearly demonstrating how striking a balance between national security and humanitarian obligations is one of the key challenges facing EU member states. At the same time, it served as a catalyst for more intense discussions on the need for a unified European migration policy—one that would fairly balance the protection of national security with the commitment to safeguard human dignity and the rights of migrants.

Simeunović (2015) argues that migration has served as a catalyst for the revival of the nation-state within the context of a globalized European Union. Despite long-standing discussions about the decline of nationalism, the response to migration suggests that national identity and interests remain deeply embedded in European societies. The continued relevance of the nation-state shows that, even in a supposedly post-national era, nations still rely on their traditional structures to protect what they perceive as core interests.

This persistence is especially notable given that nationalism is often viewed as an outdated or even undesirable ideology within the EU. Yet, the reality shows a different picture—people continue to interpret the world not only as individuals but through the collective lenses of their national, ethnic, religious, or familial identities. As Ludwik Fleck once observed, while individuals may look at the world through their own eyes, they ultimately see it shaped by their group affiliations.

This contradiction between the EU's declared values of universalism and the practical resurgence of nationalism reveals a fundamental truth: human beings are inherently subjective and imperfect. No matter how much progress is made in terms of liberal democratic values or transnational cooperation, personal and collective biases remain influential.

Ultimately, even the modern, highly educated European citizen, who might outwardly support cosmopolitan ideals, may unconsciously prioritize national interests when faced with complex issues like migration. This reveals the tension between the theoretical ideals of European unity and the persistent pull of national loyalty, demonstrating that the transition beyond nationalism is far from complete.

4. Conclusion

Labor migration represents a complex phenomenon whose dynamics arise from the interplay of various factors—economic, social, and political. Economic motives are often encapsulated in the concept of "brain drain," which is typically viewed in a negative light. However, this perspective frequently overlooks the fact that brain drain can also have positive effects on countries of origin, such as through remittance flows, foreign investments, and the transfer of technology and knowledge—provided that mechanisms for the return of emigrants are put in place.

Social and political factors, often intensified by armed conflicts, further influence individuals' decisions to leave their homeland. In such contexts, destination countries face serious challenges in integrating migrants, especially those arriving from war-torn regions.

These situations require a multi-faceted approach that not only ensures the safety and legality of migration flows but also protects fundamental human rights and offers appropriate humanitarian assistance. Additionally, the polarization of public opinion and political rhetoric that emphasizes national interests can further complicate migrant integration and create tensions within host communities.

In addressing these challenges, a key element of any comprehensive migration strategy must be the establishment of effective return mechanisms for migrants. Reintegration programs that include employment opportunities, education, social and legal support enable returnees to contribute to the development of their communities with the knowledge and experience they have gained abroad. Such policies, often implemented in cooperation with the diaspora, not only mitigate the problem of brain drain but also bring valuable human capital back to the country of origin.

At the same time, there is a pressing need for a unified European migration policy, particularly in the context of migrations caused by armed conflicts. A common framework that balances the protection of national borders with international obligations to uphold human rights would enable more fair and effective management of migration flows within the European Union. Such a unified approach would not only alleviate the negative consequences of migration but also transform it into a force that strengthens and enriches society as a whole.

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