

Determinants of Migration to the European Union and Integration Strategies: A Two-Fold Cluster Analysis

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Abstract

Nowadays, Europe is facing a major challenge brought by international migration, through its economic and humanitarian dimensions. This paper is set out to design distinctive immigration clusters for the most important ten migrant host economies within the European Union (EU). The research endeavour is based on two scenarios corresponding to migrants' decisions and expectations at destination related to economic growth and labour market outcomes. We've applied the cluster analysis hinge on the Ward method and Euclidean distance on a balanced panel compiled for EU-10 migrant-receiving countries during 2000-2015. Cluster results revealed the prevailing position of Germany as the main host country relative to economic welfare, while the Nordic States (Denmark, Sweden, Finland) were preferred when it comes to employment opportunities. We further outline several feasible mechanisms and appropriate policies for immigrants' labour market integration, with benefit spill-overs on the sustainable economic development of EU-10 host countries.

Keywords: Migration, European strategies, cluster analysis, welfare, labour market outcomes.