

Third demographic transition in Europe?

An answer based on current demographic conditions

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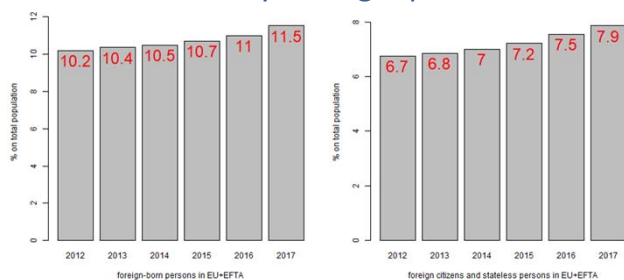
Introduction and aim

The contribution of migration to the demography of the receiving populations does not end with the migration event. The number of live births from foreign-born mothers is increasing over the latest years and it is above 20% of the total number of live births in many European countries. Combined with continued low fertility levels, these dynamics may lead the hosting countries to experience the **third demographic transition** (Coleman, PDR 2006), i.e. a change of the relative share of the native population from majority to minority. This study looks at whether, under the current demographic conditions, such a transition is materializing in European countries and how it would spread across ages.

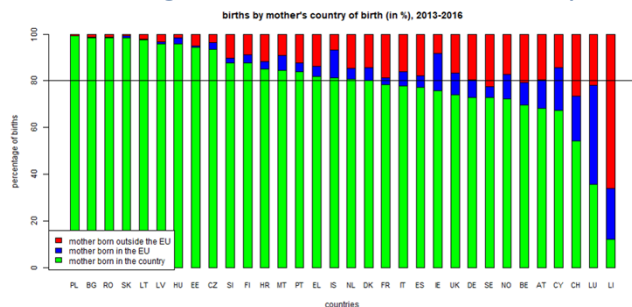
Data and method

- Data source: Eurostat database (<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/data/database>)
- Geographic coverage: EU and EFTA Member States (32 countries)
- Method: constant-rate multistate population projections

How many 'foreign' persons?



Migrants contribution to fertility



'Migration background' (MBG)

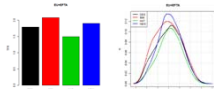
The main variable used in this study is the 'migration background', built from the reclassification of the breakdowns by country of birth and citizenship. Their cross-tabulation is estimated using quasi-random integer sampling (Smith al., JASSS 2017)

Citizenship \ Country of birth	Native-born	Born in other MS	Born outside EU
National citizenship	NATnat	NEWoms	NEWneu
Other EU citizenship	DESoms	IMMoms	IMMoms
Non-EU citizenship	DESneu	IMMneu	IMMneu

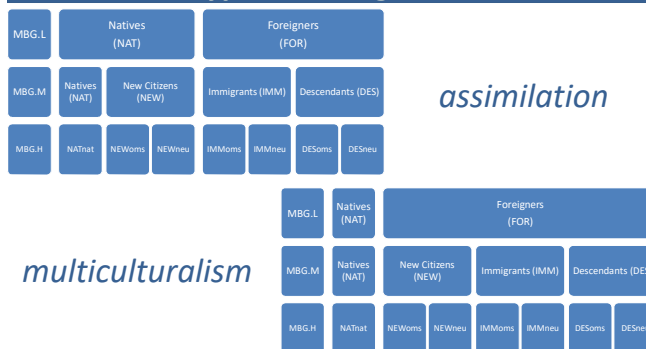
NAT: natives
IMM: immigrants
DES: descendants
NEW: new citizens
nat: native
oms: other EU Member State
neu: non-EU

Population, vital events and migration are broken down by migration background.

Examples of migration-specific rates: fertility



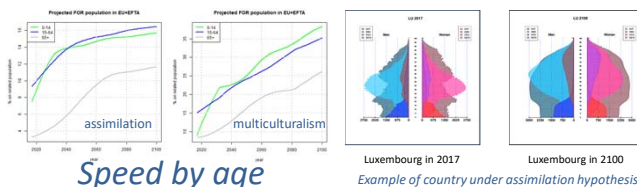
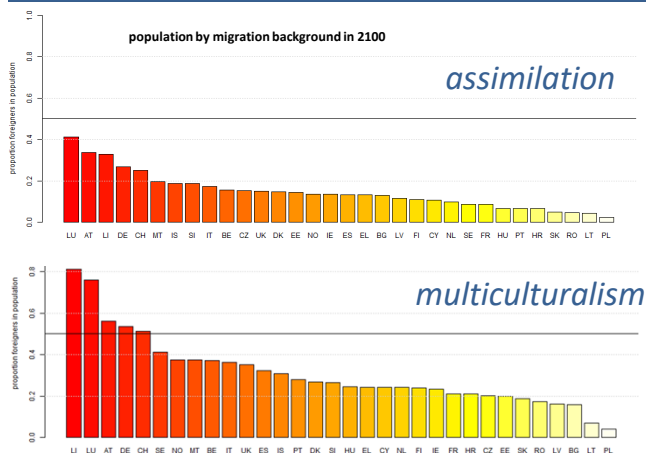
Types of integration



Projections

The population base on 1 January 2017 is broken down by about 26,000 categories, given by 32 countries of residence, 101 age classes, 2 sexes, and 4 migration backgrounds. Fertility, mortality and emigration rates are based on the period 2014-2016. Migration flows between EU Member States are consistently derived from the application of the emigration rates. Immigration from non-EU countries is kept constant. The allocation of births and acquisitions of citizenship depends upon the type of integration.

Main results



Conclusions

Under the **current demographic conditions**:

- The effect of migration on population composition depends upon the integration type.
- In multicultural societies, German-speaking countries would experience the TDT before the end of the century. Several other countries may follow would the conditions persist.
- At the very beginning – well before the (semi) stable-equivalent population is reached – the effect of migration on population composition would be larger (quicker TDT) in younger ages. However, this pattern does not necessarily apply to each single country.