



3rd MEDMEP Session
October 2019 - Nicosia, Cyprus

Factfile | EMPL Committee

The question of qualified migration

Freedom of movement in the EU forms one of the fundamental rights of its citizens, opening new prospects to young people around Europe. The 'brain drain' or otherwise called 'qualified migration' phenomenon, however, may lead to a region's permanent loss of skilled workers and students. What measures can the EU take in order to prevent the harmful effects of economic migration?

Defining key terms

- Brain drain: qualified workers move to another country to work there under better conditions, leading to a lack of that specific workforce in their home country.
- Freedom of movement (EU): The gradual phasing-out of internal borders under the Schengen agreements was followed by the adoption of Directive 2004/38/EC on the right of EU citizens and their family members to move and reside freely within the EU.
- Economic migration: job opportunities/work conditions are insufficient in economic migrants' home countries, thus leading to them emigrating to a different country.
- Segregation: there is a divide between people with higher and lower incomes, academical differences can also be a reason for segregation.
- Maastricht Treaty: contains the EU-treaty, grants each citizen of a member state EU-citizenship which made economic migration possible.
- Schengen Agreements: the goal of the Schengen Agreements is to minimize identity checks at internal frontiers, thus leading to free movement of persons within the participating EU-countries. The Schengen Agreements have faced many difficulties since the beginning of the refugee crisis. There are 26 full Schengen members.

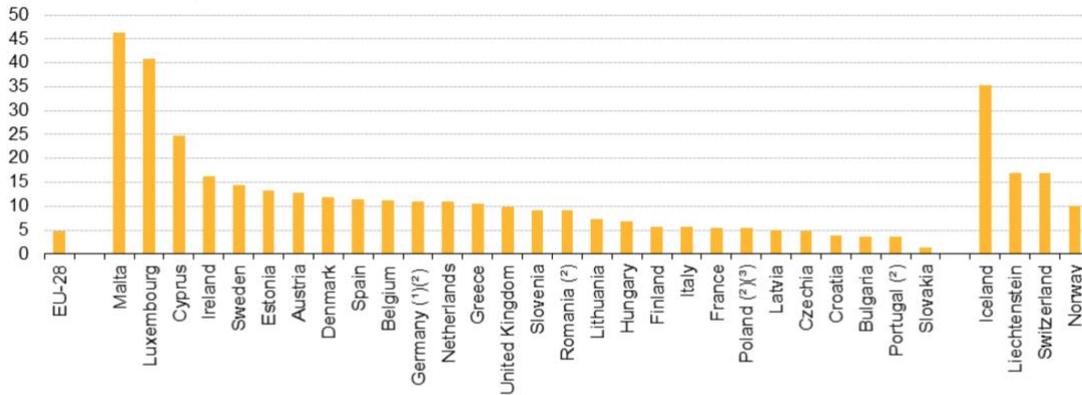
Stakeholders

- The European Economic Area: an international agreement which enables the extension of the European Union's single market to non-EU member parties.
- The European Commission: an institution of the European Union, responsible for proposing legislation, implementing decisions, upholding the EU treaties and managing the day-to-day business of the EU.

Statistics

to help you get an impression of the development of our committee issue:

Immigrants, 2017
(per 1 000 inhabitants)



(*) Break in series.

(*) Estimate.

(*) Provisional.

Source: Eurostat (online data codes: migr_imm1ctz and migr_pop1ctz)

Source: <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/pdfscache/1275.pdf>

EUROPE GDP PPP – 2019 Forecast

| GDP PPP, current prices (billions of international dollars) | | GDP PPP Share | | | |
|---|-------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|-----|-------|
| Germany | 4,555 | 14.3% | Slovak Republic | 203 | 0.6% |
| Russia | 4,345 | 13.6% | Belarus | 201 | 0.6% |
| United Kingdom | 3,145 | 9.9% | Azerbaijan | 189 | 0.6% |
| France | 3,081 | 9.7% | Bulgaria | 171 | 0.5% |
| Italy | 2,474 | 7.8% | Serbia | 119 | 0.4% |
| Turkey | 2,373 | 7.4% | Croatia | 113 | 0.4% |
| Spain | 1,950 | 6.1% | Lithuania | 102 | 0.3% |
| Poland | 1,271 | 4.0% | Slovenia | 80 | 0.3% |
| Netherlands | 1,019 | 3.2% | Luxembourg | 70 | 0.2% |
| Switzerland | 573 | 1.8% | Latvia | 61 | 0.2% |
| Belgium | 570 | 1.8% | Bosnia and Herzegovina | 50 | 0.2% |
| Sweden | 567 | 1.8% | Estonia | 47 | 0.1% |
| Romania | 543 | 1.7% | Georgia | 46 | 0.1% |
| Austria | 484 | 1.5% | Albania | 41 | 0.1% |
| Czech Republic | 417 | 1.3% | Cyprus | 36 | 0.1% |
| Norway | 415 | 1.3% | FYR Macedonia | 34 | 0.1% |
| Ukraine | 411 | 1.3% | Armenia | 33 | 0.1% |
| Ireland | 402 | 1.3% | Moldova | 27 | 0.1% |
| Portugal | 342 | 1.1% | Malta | 22 | 0.1% |
| Greece | 327 | 1.0% | Kosovo | 22 | 0.07% |
| Hungary | 325 | 1.0% | Iceland | 20 | 0.06% |
| Denmark | 313 | 1.0% | Montenegro | 12 | 0.04% |
| Finland | 267 | 0.8% | San Marino | 2 | 0.01% |
| Total GDP PPP : \$31,869 billion | | Total GDP PPP Share : 100% | | | |

Data Source: IMF World Economic Outlook, October 2018

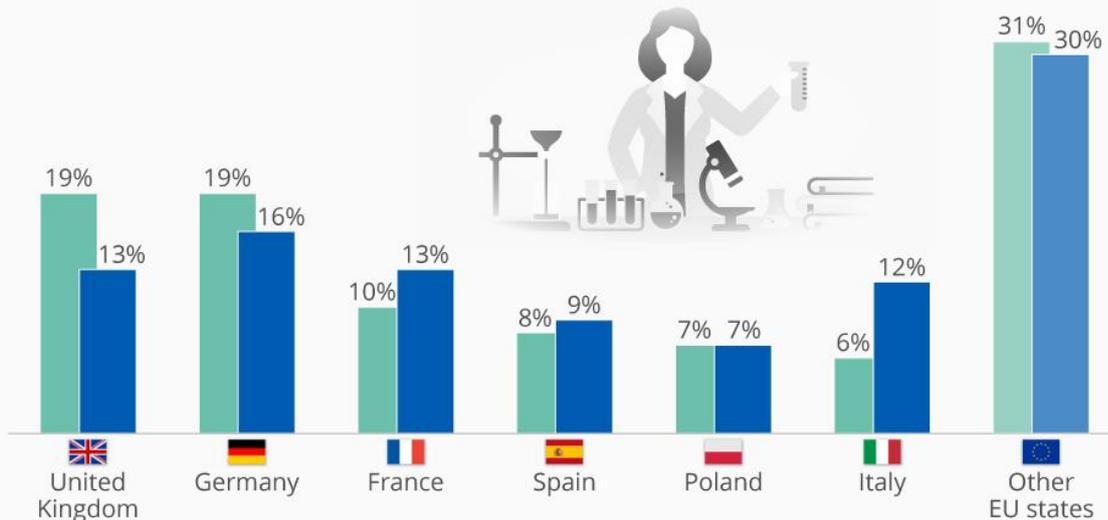
Data Analysis by: MGM Research

Source: <https://mgmresearch.com/europe-gdp-indicators-2019-forecast/>

Brain Drain Within the EU?

Distribution of scientists and engineers in the European Union, by location in 2017*

■ Country's share of total EU scientists & engineers
 ■ Country's share of total EU population




 @StatistaCharts

* Aged between 25 and 64.

Source: Eurostat

statista

Source: <https://www.statista.com/chart/15528/eu-scientists-by-location/>

Overview

- Workforce migration and the brain drain phenomenon constitute a real problem in Europe.
- The employment rate of higher education graduates in the EU has not fully recovered after the 2008 financial crisis and huge differences can be observed not only between Member States, but also between regions.
- Workshop held by the Harghita County Council, in cooperation with representatives of European Commission, European Parliament and the European Committee of the Regions organised a workshop entitled Brain Drain: a one way ticket? – workshop on youth and workforce migration.
- It was established that some measures should be formulated regarding the brain drain theme and **if the local community is stronger and more attractive, less people will emigrate to other countries.**
- A worrying example of the negative effects of the free movement within the EU and the “brain drain” include the “deepening” shortfall of doctors to treat Poland’s own ill, because as the capital Warsaw reported; too many were leaving for better pay packets in Western Europe (e.g. Germany)