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# The History of Migration in Europe

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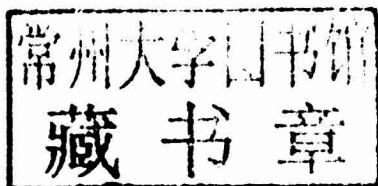
Edited by  
Francesca Fauri



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and sociology

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# The History of Migration in Europe

*The History of Migration in Europe* belies several myths by arguing, for example, that immobility has not been the “normal” condition of people before the modern era. Migration (far from being an income-maximizing choice taken by lone individuals) is often a household strategy, and local wages benefit from migration. This book shows how successes arise when governments liberalize and accompany the international movements of people with appropriate legislation, while failures take place when the legislation enacted is insufficient, belated or ill shaped.

Part I of this book addresses mainly methodological issues. Past and present migration is basically defined as a cross-cultural movement; cultural boundaries need prolonged residence and active integrationist policies to allow the cross-fertilization of cultures among migrants and non-migrants. Part II collects chapters that examine the role of public bodies with reference to migratory movements, depicting a series of successes and failures in the migration policies through examples drawn from the European Union or single countries. Part III deals with the challenges that immigrants face once they have settled in their new countries: Do immigrants seek “integration” in their host culture? Through which channels is such integration achieved, and what roles are played by citizenship and political participation? What is the “identity” of migrants and their children born in the host countries?

This text’s originality stems from the fact that it explains the complex nature of migratory movements by incorporating a variety of perspectives and using a multi-disciplinary approach, including economic, political and sociological contributions.

**Francesca Fauri** is Assistant Professor and Jean Monnet Chair in Economic and Migration History at the University of Bologna, Italy. Her research centres on Italian and European economic history, with a specific interest in the economic causes and impact of migration movements. In 2013 she won a Basic Research University Funding award to broaden her studies to the use of remittances and the history of immigrant business in Europe. She has co-edited *Novel Outlooks on the Marshall Plan* (Lang, 2011).

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# Preface

*Francesca Fauri*

When, in 2011, I was awarded an EU Jean Monnet Chair with a project on Italian and European migratory movements, my research on the subject had just begun. As my effort went deeper I realized that a full understanding of past and contemporary migratory processes cannot be achieved by relying on the tools of one discipline alone or by focusing on single-level analyses: we need to broaden the investigation and rely on a multi-disciplinary approach. That's why I conceptualized this book, which embodies the contributions of top level authors in different disciplines and using different perspectives.

As an economic historian I can say that the theoretical approach to immigration that has prevailed for the past 50 years among economists does not come to terms with the complexities of the current reality nor, for that matter, with the migration flows of the past. It is quite clear that migrants do not merely respond to economic disparities between countries. Although migration is clearly related to differentials in wages and employment, economic disparities alone are not enough to explain international movements. Traditional explanations need to be modified to give more weight to non-pecuniary factors: when, for instance, the costs of leaving one's home country are high, they may predominate over expected gains from immigration. Similarly, migration cannot be considered an income-maximizing choice taken by an individual alone, but, as historians underline, it is often a household strategy, a decision taken within the family context to support and improve life conditions at home. Remittances may thus be considered as one of the most fundamental objectives of the decision to migrate, a choice which is made collectively for the well-being of the entire family group. Thus, the relationship with the family in the home country represents the core element of many migratory processes.

The complex nature of migratory movements requires a sophisticated theory that incorporates a variety of perspectives and a multidisciplinary approach. This is what this book aims at: to focus on the history of migration past and the present impact on Europe, through a multi-disciplinary approach that includes economic, political and sociological contributions.

I would like to bear witness to the great interest to which this cross-cultural multi-disciplinary adventure gave rise and that has made this book not only intellectually rewarding but also extremely fertile for stimulating intellectual

confrontation and developing mutual understanding among an international community of scholars. A large part of the contributions included here originated, to some degree, in a conference on “Emigration from and to Europe: A Multidisciplinary Long-term View”, held in Forlì, Italy in December 2013; in that venue some of the texts, in a preliminary version, were presented and discussed by their authors. The fertility of the perspectives and the findings of those papers suggested the opportunity to develop those works for this volume.

Finally, I should like to thank the members of the scientific committee – Paolo Tedeschi, Elisabetta Tonizzi and Vera Zamagni – as well as Fabio Casini and the Forlì Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence, for their assistance throughout the project. Without the funding of the above-mentioned EU Jean Monnet Chair my research and the gathering of such a prestigious group of scholars would not have been possible.

# Abbreviations

AIRE	Registry of Italians Living Abroad
CCMR	Cross-cultural migration rate
CDLR	Committee on Local and Regional Democracy
CGE	Commissariato Generale per l'Emigrazione
CLOTI	Comité de liaison des organisations des travailleurs immigrés
EC	European Council
ECSC	European Coal and Steel Community
EDC	European Defence Community
EEC	European Economic Community
EIB	European Investment Bank
ESC	Economic and Social Committee
ESF	European Social Fund
ESS	European Social Survey
HAEU	Historical Archives of the EU
HDI	Human Development Index
ICEM	Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration
ICLE	Istituto per il credito del lavoro italiano all'estero
ILO	International Labour Organization
INES	Irish National Election Study
IOM	International Organization for Migration
IRO	International Refugee Organisation
OEEC	Organisation for European Economic Co-operation
PICMME	Provisional Intergovernmental Committee for the Movement of Migrants from Europe
PRO	Public Record Office
UN	United Nations



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