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Measurement, drivers, and consequences of international migration

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Propositions accompanying the PhD thesis

Measurement, Drivers, and Consequences of International Migration

Essays in Migration Economics

By Tobias Grohmann

1. Previous empirical findings on the determinants and effects of international migration may be flawed because many researchers chose measures of migration that are inappropriate for their research question. (Chapter 2)
2. The gravity model is the optimal tool to investigate determinants of international migration because it incorporates both agency *and* structure in explaining migration. (Chapters 2 and 3)
3. Although cultural similarity between countries may reduce the economic, psychological, and social costs of migration, it does not, on average, increase migration (as much) as previously thought. (Chapter 3)
4. Religious leaders may have as much impact on migration flows as bilateral policy agreements. (Chapter 3)
5. Taking seriously the selection and sorting of migrants along factors that go beyond typical economic factors, will (continue to) disprove established truths about international migration. (Chapters 3 and 5)
6. Identity concerns surpass financial incentives more often than not. (Chapter 4)
7. Immigrants are at a higher risk to confirm negative stereotypes than non-migrants – even if the stereotype is unrelated to their immigrant identity. (Chapter 4)
8. Current political, economic, and social policies in Europe are inadequate to successfully manage international migration flows.
9. In policy as in life it holds that, “Das Gegenteil von gut ist gut gemeint.“ (German proverb)
10. The Rocky Mountains were not formed by shallow-slab subduction.