



Education and Culture DG

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COMENIUS Project



Problems of migration in Europe

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Problems of migration in Europe:

Introduction:

We started our research by producing a questionnaire which should be given to all partner schools. By doing so we wanted to get information about numbers, reasons and consequences of migration in five European countries. Our objective was to compare the results and to find out differences as well as common structures and problems. Here is our questionnaire:

Please give, if possible, proportional and absolute answers:

Main data about migration:

1. How many immigrants are there per year, both in the whole country and your town/region?
2. How many emigrants are there per year, both in the whole country and your town/region?
3. In which way do these data show a development? Are they increasing or falling?
4. a) How many people, who were born abroad but do have the citizenship of your country, live in your country/region/town?
b) How many people who were born abroad but do NOT have the citizenship of your country, live in your country/region/town?
5. Where do the immigrants originally come from?

Immigration:

6. a) What are their reasons for leaving their country?
b) Why do they choose your country as their destination?
c) Which goals are they striving for?
7. What is their personal profile (gender, age, profession, social/financial status, religion...)?
8. a) Are there (distinguished) different types of residence authorisation?
b) What are the respective conditions they need to fulfil in order to receive them?
c) How long is each of them valid??
9. What rights are granted to these immigrants?
10. What are the essential conditions for acquiring the citizenship in your country?
11. How does the system profit from immigrants (cultural enrichment, qualified workers...)?
12. Does your government support or prevent immigration, and if so, how?
13. How should immigrants behave / what should they consider, when they start living in your country?
14. a) Which problems are the immigrants confronted with (discrimination, unemployment, cultural differences, etc.)?
b) Which problems are caused by the immigrants (competition on the job market, cultural differences, etc.)?
c) What is the percentage of crimes with right wing extreme background of all committed crimes?
d) What is the percentage of crimes committed by the immigrants themselves?
15. What measures are taken (have been taken) by your government in order to integrate the immigrants and solve these problems?
16. How do you estimate the immigrants' willingness regarding their integration (learning of your language, accommodation to the new culture, etc.)?
17. In what extent does illegal immigration exist in your country (estimated number of unknown cases)?
18. In what way do the immigrants' hopes and dreams come true?

Emigration:

19. a) What are the reasons for people who emigrate from your country?
b) Which are the most popular destination countries and why?
20. What is their personal profile? (see above)
21. Does emigration cause any serious problems in the society (lack of highly qualified citizens...)?
22. a) Do their wishes and expectations fulfil?
b) How large is the number of people who return to your country?
c) From which countries do they mainly return?

When we received the results from the partners, we realized that it was not that easy to evaluate the results:

- Some answers were not really clear enough; that is why we gave a lot of additional questions to our partners. At least, a part of the additional answers we received, led to better understanding.
- Some data were not really compatible since the numbers based on different years or on different geographical units. That's why we didn't respect the given data of local or regional emigration/ immigration in our report, for example.
- Some of our questions proved not to be practicable because they were not possible to answer. That is why we cancelled the questions 13, 16 and 22a.
- Not in all countries were data of the same quality available. This sometimes made it difficult to compare the results.

The positive aspect of these problems: We had to organise a process of permanent communication and cooperation with our partner schools to improve our results. Finally we hope to present a certain impression of the structure and problems of migration in the five participating countries.

Evaluation: Questions 1-5 (Jonas)

Main data about migration:

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2. How many emigrants are there per year, both in the whole country and your town/region?
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5. Where do the immigrants originally come from?

Migration will become more and more important for the common policy of the European countries in the future. To get an overview about the situation of today, we analysed migration in single countries. Subjects of our research were Poland, Italy, Lithuania, the Netherlands and Germany. We also collected data about the regions and towns of all participating schools, though they turned out to be irrelevant for the following elaboration or not compatible because of the differences of geographical units.

It is possible to split up the analysed countries into three kinds of migration countries. The Netherlands and Germany are both typical for countries with a high rate of immigration while Lithuania and Poland are examples for countries with a high emigration. Italy has changed during the last decades from an emigration to an immigration country.

The number of immigrants per year reaches from just 5.213 people that went to Lithuania (2010) to 721.014 that came to Germany (2009). In Germany the number of immigrants is decreasing (GER: 879.217->721.014 (2001-2009)) while it is slightly increasing in Poland and (at least till 2008) in Lithuania, compared to former years; it is also increasing in Italy. One can see that it is highly fluctuating in Italy and the Netherlands (IT: 226.970->440.300->279.710->527.120 (2000-2003-2006-2007), NL: 123.850->92.297->149.762 (2000-2005-2010)).

Table 1: Immigration per year

	Germany	Italy	The Netherlands	Poland	Lithuania
2000	841.158	226970	123850	7331	
2001	879.217	208250	133404	6625	
2002	842.543	213200	121250	6587	
2003	768.975	440300	104514	7048	
2004	780175	414880	94019	9495	5553
2005	707.000	304960	92297	9364	6789
2006	661.855	279710	101150	10802	7.745
2007	680.766	527120	116819	14995	8.609
2008	682146		142737	15275	9.297
2009	721014		146378	17400	6487
2010			149762		5213

The number of emigrants stagnates in most western countries (GER: ~ 600 -670.000, NL: ~90.000) and increases in Eastern European countries since their accession to the EU (in Poland at least till 2006: 27.000 ->46.936->18.600 (2000-2006-2009), Lithuania: 12.602->17.015->83.157 (2006-2008-2010)), but recently also increased in Germany. In 2008 and 2009 the number of emigrants even exceeded the number of immigrants to Germany, due to the economic crisis. It is too early to see if this is a general turning point.

Table 2: Emigration per year

	Germany	Italy	Netherlands	Poland	Lithuania
2000	674.038	56600	61201	27000	
2001	606.494	56080	63318	23368	
2002	623.255	41760	66728	24532	
2003	626.330	48710	68885	20813	
2004	697632	49910	75049	18877	15165
2005	628.399	53930	83399	22242	15571
2006	639.064	58410	91028	46936	12.602
2007	636.854	51110	91287	35480	13.853
2008	737.889		89109	30140	17.015
2009	733796		85357	18600	21970
2010			88632		83157

Approximately half of all immigrants in Italy, the Netherlands and Germany have the citizenship of their new homeland (NL: 44%, IT/GER: 52%), unfortunately we do not have exact information of Lithuania and Poland.

Most immigrants came from other EU countries, especially from neighbouring countries. Those who came from non EU-countries are mainly from Eastern and South-Eastern European countries (Ukraine, Belarus, Russia, Albania, Serbia), from Arabic countries (Morocco, Lebanon), from East

Asia (Vietnam, China, Indonesia) and West Asia (Turkey, Afghanistan, Iraq). In some countries the high rate of immigrants from a particular country is historical-based (Poland: Vietnam/ The Netherlands: Immigrants from former colonies).

Table 3: Immigration to Lithuania

Year/Country	2004	2005	2006
UK	541	1192	1500
Russia	993	858	1000
Belarus	441	583	900
Ireland	188	423	800
Germany	629	698	700
USA	451	600	600
Spain	250	360	400
Ukraine	334	336	300
Latvia	147	195	200
Poland	117	143	150
Italy	93	112	100
Israel	117	88	100
Denmark	89	85	100
France	78	77	100
Other	1085	1039	750
Total	5553	6789	7700

Table 4: Immigration to the Netherlands

Year/Country	1995	2000	2005	2008	2009
Poland	1236	1884	6672	13890	13027
Germany	10035	8438	9134	12929	12818
Belgium	5161	5755	5584	7874	8038
UK	4708	7817	4903	7536	7376
Antilles Aruba	5149	13090	4416	6243	6625
Spain	1784	2638	2885	5101	5883
USA	4634	5072	4410	5951	5746
China	1392	2789	3341	5121	5241
Belarus	112	277	416	5148	4272

Evaluation: Questions 6 and 7 (Tilman)

Immigration:

6. a) what are their reasons for leaving their country?
 - b) Why do they choose your country as their destination?
 - c) Which goals are they striving for?
7. What is their personal profile (gender, age, profession, social/financial status, religion...)?

To understand why people leave their country and settle in countries like Poland, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Italy or Germany, we tried to figure out the personal profiles of foreigners as well as their reasons to immigrate and the goals they try to achieve. But it was very hard for the working groups to find data about the personal profile of immigrants, because the groups could not find all data they needed. Nevertheless the TIE-groups could figure out a main difference between Germany, Italy and the Netherlands on the one hand and Poland or Lithuania on the other hand. The difference consists of the reasons for immigration. In Germany, the Netherlands and Italy people basically immigrate because they strive for better living and working conditions. They are looking for economic success and a better life in freedom, which means that they try to solve social and economic problems. For example a lot of refugees come to Germany, Italy or the Netherlands in order to start a new better life. 20.5% of immigrants in Germany and 5-11% of immigrants in the Netherlands are unemployed, which underlines the striving for a better economic situation.

In contrast to these reasons, people most frequently immigrate to Lithuania and Poland because of family reasons. 43% of immigrants in Lithuania answered, that they immigrate because of marriage. If they come to work in Lithuania or Poland, they are often well-qualified. 36% of immigrants in Poland have graduated from university.

As a conclusion, one can say that mainly young people immigrate to the European countries Germany, Italy, Poland, Lithuania and the Netherlands (average age 37.9 Germany; 80% of the immigrants are between 20 and 50 in Poland), though there is one big difference between these countries. On the one hand in Germany, Italy and the Netherlands there is the problem of mass immigration and integration, caused by the economic success and the high living conditions. On the other hand, people immigrate to Lithuania and Poland because of family reasons. Their number is limited.

Legal background, Questions 8 – 10 (Jasper)

Immigration:

8. a) Are there (distinguished) different types of residence authorisation?
 - b) What are the respective conditions they need to fulfil in order to receive them?
 - c) How long is each of them valid??
9. What rights are granted to these immigrants?
10. What are the essential conditions for acquiring the citizenship in your country?

The legal background concerning immigration is complex but important to understand several problems. We tried to figure out the main similarities and main differences between the five European states.

Every country uses three main types of residence authorizations, which can include further differentiation. These are permission for permanent residence (settlement), temporary residence or asylum. Furthermore permission to work and the 'tolerated staying' is generally available. There are

also extra rules for students, highly qualified people and families which differ between the different countries.

In order to receive the different residence permissions, one has to fulfill several conditions which can differ from one case to another within the country, especially in Germany. Concerning the residence permissions and the permission to work, there are basic requirements like a valid passport and no criminal background. In Lithuania and Poland, immigrants just need to meet the conditions of the entry set in the Schengen Borders Code. We found similar conditions in Italy. In Germany, further conditions are vague and determined by the aim of the immigrant.

If it comes to the permission for settlement, the conditions are more demanding. In general one needs to have had a temporary permission for a longer period (five years in Germany), needs to have an accommodation and a job. One must be financially independent. Sometimes there are additional financial demands. In Germany one needs to have paid contributions to the pension-system for at least 60 months. Concerning asylum and tolerated staying there are mainly Europe-wide regulations: The Dublin Regulation and the Geneva Convention (only affecting asylum).

The rights that are granted to immigrants differ according to the permissions the foreigners hold. In general, basic human rights are granted in every country. Furthermore, since the Maastricht Treaty was signed, all EU-citizens are allowed to vote in their local community, no matter which country they are originally from. In the Netherlands all immigrants holding a residence permit are allowed to vote in their local community, but only after a five-year-stay.

Social benefits are guaranteed. In Germany tolerated people do not receive full social assistance and they may not be allowed to work. In the Eastern countries we did not find any significant legal limitations. Therefore, immigrants in Poland have the right to receive help with their integration, like language courses.

If foreigners want to apply for citizenship, they again need to fulfill several conditions. It seems like it is a lot easier in Lithuania or Poland, especially compared to Germany. In Lithuania and Poland any family-connections like one great-grandparent, who was a citizen of the particular country, is enough to get a citizenship. In Germany, there exists a similar rule for former resettlers. These are people who immigrated to Germany (mainly from Russia, Kazakhstan, Poland or Romania), but who had at least one ancestor who once emigrated from Germany and had a German citizenship. In the Netherlands, one parent needs to be a citizen.

In other cases, in Lithuania, the person who applies only has to do a certain test and to verify that he or she legally entered the country. In Poland the main important condition is the legal holding of a permanent residence permit over six months.

In contrast, in Germany an immigrant needs to fulfill seven specific conditions. Naturalization demands: a legal residence in Germany for eight years, legal holding of the settlement permission, financial independence, knowledge of language and culture, no criminal background, commitment to the fundamental rights and the abandonment of the former citizenship. On the other hand, every child born in Germany receives the German citizenship, but only if at least one parent meets the conditions named before. In the Netherlands one needs to meet several conditions, which are almost the same as in Germany. Interestingly, they connect different social purposes with the naturalization, so an applicant needs to be willing to cooperate with a research on tuberculosis.

Impression of immigrants, Questions 11 – 14 (Tilmann)

Immigration:

11. How does the system profit from immigrants (cultural enrichment, qualified workers...)?
12. Does your government support or prevent immigration, and if so, how?
13. How should immigrants behave / what should they consider, when they start living in your country? (*This question has been cancelled*)
14. a) Which problems are the immigrants confronted with (discrimination, unemployment, cultural differences, etc.)?
b) Which problems are caused by the immigrants (competition on the job market, cultural differences, etc.)?
c) What is the percentage of crimes with right wing extreme background of all committed crimes?
d) What is the percentage of crimes committed by the immigrants themselves?

In order to understand whether immigrants are welcomed in a country or disliked, the work groups from each school tried to figure out the situation in their country. The following information was presented by the five schools, which tried to evaluate objectively. We tried to prove our statements by statistics and numbers. But some information cannot be proved, so it is subjective. Therefore the given impressions are not transferable to the whole country at all. We only tried to give one objective and differentiated opinion of each country. Thus we analysed advantages, disadvantages, problems, and the behaviour of immigrants, in order to be as precise as we can.

The first questions we asked all TIE-groups dealt with the advantages and disadvantages of immigrants for Italy, Poland, Lithuania, the Netherlands and Germany.

All TIE groups agreed that basically countries profit economically from immigrants. Immigrants are sometimes well-qualified and therefore hard to replace. The groups also mentioned cultural aspects as advantages, which means, that foreigners often are the reason for a cultural plurality. Mainly because of the economic aspects, Poland and Lithuania try to support immigration. In contrast to Poland and Lithuania, Italy absolutely wants to prevent immigration because of the high numbers of illegal immigration due to their position near Africa. Nevertheless, the politics in Italy alleges that Italy supports immigrants who are already inside the borders of Italy. Germany and the Netherlands want to support immigration of well-qualified immigrants and refugees, but as well as Italy they try to prevent mass immigration, which is caused by the economic success of the three countries. The Netherlands are changing their integration policy from supporting immigrants to prevention of immigration at the moment.

Subsequently the working groups answered questions about problems that immigrants have. According to the research of the TIE-members, immigrants have problems with integration, mainly because of language problems and discrimination. The working groups from the Netherlands, Italy and Germany also referred to integration problems based on cultural differences between the culture of the immigrants and the culture of the country. In addition, laws sometimes forbid immigrants to work in the country and discrimination complicates the job search. All TIE-members answered, that their countries` governments try to fight against discrimination.

Nevertheless, in each country there is a certain rate of crimes against foreigners. In Germany 351 right wing crimes have been counted in the year 2009. In Poland only 166 crimes have been counted, but in contrast to Germany the right wing crime rate is increasing in Poland, as well as in the Netherlands and in Lithuania. In the Netherlands, 216 crimes with right wing background have been counted in 2008, which is a high number if you compare the number of crimes with the number of inhabitants of the state. The school in Busto Arsizio could not find data for Italy. Only

the school from Ahaus could find statistics about what kind of crimes are committed against foreigners. They found out that 90% of offences against immigrants are bodily injuries. Anyway, the TIE-groups confirmed this statement by their own experiences. Only the school from Italy answered, that foreigners are sometimes abused for jobs which they do not want to do, for example prostitution. But it is obvious that this problem exists in other countries, too, so as for example in Germany. All schools have the same agreed that there are several reasons for committing crimes with right wing background. The working groups answered that people who commit crimes with right wing background often do not feel integrated in the society. The TIE-members think that they blame immigrants for their own problems like unemployment and that they dislike the immigrants' behaviour.

At last, we tried to find data about problems that immigrants cause, but for the working groups it was very hard to find the correct information. Considering the very small number of immigrants in Poland and Lithuania, there are no important problems caused by immigrants. In Germany and the Netherlands foreign workers sometimes earn less than German or Dutch workers. This means they influence the regional employment market. In Germany, the Netherlands and mainly in Italy crimes which are committed by foreigners illustrate problems with integration of immigrants.

In Germany 20% of criminals are foreigners, while only 9% of all citizens are immigrants (2009). In Italy 1.32% of the immigrants are criminals, which is two-times higher than the percentage of criminals of all Italian (0.75%). This roughly translates to 7.4% of criminals being immigrants. In the Netherlands the number of foreign suspects for property offence is two times higher than the number for Dutch suspects, too. In Lithuania only 0.9% of all prisoners were immigrants in 2003. In Poland 0.4% of all committed crimes were committed by foreigners in 2003.

Percentage of foreign prisoners: Germany – 26.4%, Italy – 36.8%, Netherlands – 27.7%, Poland – 0.7%, Lithuania – 1.1%. (2010/11)¹

Illegal immigration does not count as an offence for these answers.

Apart from illegal immigration, in Italy, Germany and Lithuania immigrants mostly commit thievery (46.9% of all crimes committed by foreigners 2004 in Italy; 63% of all crimes committed by foreigners 2006 in Germany). This maybe shows that immigrants often do not live in an affluent society which could be one reason for committing crimes like robbery. Furthermore the TIE-groups think that criminal immigrants sometimes do not want to live in our society which means that they do not accept our society, our rules and our laws.

Questions 15 - 17 (Sonja)

15. What measures are taken (have been taken) by your government in order to integrate the immigrants and solve these problems?

In **Italy**, there exist three laws to integrate immigrants to solve problems like discrimination.

The first one, the “Turco-Napolitano law”, allows legal immigrants to obtain the Italian citizenship according to the Italian law (citizens' rights, right to family rejoining, sanitary treatment, health and education). The citizenship can be acquired by filiation (birth to an Italian parent); by birth on Italian territory to stateless parents or to unknown parents or to parents who cannot transmit their nationality; with the acknowledgement or legitimation of an Italian mother or father; for those who are of Italian origin up to the second degree; or the applicant has served in the Italian military or civil service or has resided for two years in Italy after reaching the age of legal majority.

¹ World Prison Brief of the International Centre for Prison Studies, <http://www.prisonstudies.org/info/worldbrief/?search=europe&x=Europe>

Furthermore, the law expels illegal immigrants. The second one, a law against racism and discrimination, punishes people who discriminate others for racial or sexual reasons with prison. The “Bossi-Fini law” provides for the immediate expulsion of the illegal immigrants, led to the border by the police. It also says that illegal immigrants without identity documents are transferred to temporary residence centres.

There is also a special school program over some month for immigrated students who do not know the language. After having passed an exam, they join the rest of the students and begin the integration from the same educational level. Due to that, this program prevents a slow-down of other children's learning processes and improves the learning process of the foreigners.

In **Lithuania**, there are several projects or organizations which help the immigrants to better integrate into society and to solve their problems by themselves:

- The “Tolerantiško jaunimo asocijacija” (“Association of a Tolerant Youth”) deals with the immigrants’ integration into the community they live in.
- The project “Prieinama informacija – sėkmingos integracijos garantas” (“Accessible Information – Successful Way of Integration”) provides the immigrants with necessary information either by phone, via the Internet or personally and issues the booklet “I live in Lithuania” for immigrants in English, Russian and Chinese language.
- The third project “Third Country Nationals in Lithuania: Assessment and Indexes of Integration Policy“ deals with public opinion surveys on the attitudes of the Lithuanian population with regard to third country nationals
- The project “Prevention and Improved Assistance to Victims of Trafficking in the Kaliningrad Oblast (PIAVKO)” provides a better service to people who are in need of information concerning safe migration and trafficking and increases the capacity of journalists to spread more accurate information about human trafficking.

Doing this, they try to raise the public awareness about legal and safe possibilities to travel abroad and about the risks related to human trafficking and smuggling. It pilots empowerment training sessions with three groups of vulnerable girls. In addition, the project gives direct assistance to up to ten victims of trafficking. To give further background: The Kaliningrad Oblast is a Russian exclave at the Baltic Sea between Poland and Lithuania.

In the **Netherlands**, immigrants have to do an integration course to ensure that they do their best to integrate. So the government checks if the immigrants know enough about the Netherlands and their culture. If they do not pass this course, they can do a re-sit. If they do not pass it again, they do not get the Dutch passport but can still live in the Netherlands.

There also exist some government agencies which help the people to integrate. They broadcast commercials and give immigrants more opportunities to get a job. They also hang posters all around for the immigrants to give them information, for example that they have to learn the Dutch language because otherwise they do not naturalise and will not be able to operate in the society. In addition to the posters, the government sends letters to the immigrants for detailed information. Last but not least, there is a Turkish party in the parliament which does a lot for the immigrants, especially the Turkish ones.

In **Germany**, the “National Integration Plan”, which consists of 400 different measures to improve the integration of immigrants, for example establishes new training posts, improves language- and immigration-lessons and simplifies the access to high-qualified jobs. But to be able to fulfil these measures, it is important that the immigrants know to speak German, both in the society and in the family.

Another project, the so called “Youth Migration Services” accompany young immigrants on their way into a traineeship or a job. Furthermore, joined companies try to improve the support and the use of the individual potentials of immigrated employees.

To give a third example, the project “Football against racism and discrimination” is supported by

the Government with 300.000€ per year. In addition Day-Care-Centres care for children of women who want to join integration- or language-courses.

Immigrants in **Poland** reputedly do not cause any problems so that an intervention of the Government is not necessary.

Taking every country into account, all governments intervene in a similar way: They try to improve the protection and the rights of the immigrants but simultaneously call for the immigrants' willingness to integrate into the society, both social- and language-wise. The government therefore supports them.

Nevertheless there are lots of problems caused by a lack of integration. In some countries, for example, there exist parallel societies i.e. immigrants from the same country building their own "sub-society" in bigger cities. They have their own shops, their own church and their own factories which give them a job. They are not willing to learn the language of the country they live in and even do not behave corresponding to the traditions.

Another problem is represented by foreign workers which only are on sufferance. While working for low wages and without any social security since years, they contribute to the country's prosperity but do not get a residence permit.

It is the same with seasonal workers. They have to live on the outskirts although they make up a big part of the population of a city. They do not get a labour agreement. Due to that the employer is able to pay low wages. In addition, they not only have to suffer from bad working conditions but also from discrimination although they contribute to the city's prosperity.

The mentioned problems show that it is not always the immigrants' fault that they are not able to integrate. Also the governments complicate the integration while preventing that immigrants get a residence permit although the latter has been serving the country for a long period of time.

16. How do you estimate the immigrants' willingness regarding their integration (learning of your language, accommodation to the new culture, etc.)? *(This question has been cancelled)*

17. To what extend does illegal immigration exist in your country?

In **Italy**, the estimated total number of illegal immigrants for 2008 was about 650.000, which means 300.000 more than the year before. Despite the bill which should have regularized this number on 500.000, it consistently grows again and estimates of up to 1 million illegal immigrants living in Italy can be found.

Probably the number will still grow because usually illegal immigrants want to escape the bad living conditions in their home country. They are looking for a fortune in Italy because they do not find so many controls when they arrive there. The geographic location of Italy plays a big role. People from Northern-Africa can reach the Italian island Lampedusa very fast and easily by boat. Especially in times of revolution (cf. Egypt) people are scared of political persecution or are just afraid of losing their job because of the missing tourism in those times (cf. Tunisia). Due to that they try to start a new life in Italy.

Boat people always made up a big part of the immigration in Italy. In order to reduce the number of them, the Italian government has been tightening the controls on sea since 2008 (2008: 36.000 boat people, 2010: only 4.000 boat people). But because of the revolutionary times in Arab countries now, the number will probably increase this year. Until now (May 2011) it is about 30.000 boat people, which is, despite the current situation, not an extraordinarily high number compared to the total number of immigrants in Italy or Germany.

Illegal immigration in **Lithuania** does not exist as far as in other EU countries because of very severe sanctions (15 years in prison + confiscation of property) and little immigration in general.

Due to that in 2003, only 581 illegal immigrants were detained at the border. In 2005, there have been 805 attempts to illegally cross the Lithuanian border, in 2006 623. Unfortunately, the estimated number of unknown cases is not noted.

In the **Netherlands**, the estimated number of illegal immigrants varies between 60.000 and 160.000.

In **Germany**, the number of illegal immigrants varies between 500.000 and 1.000.000. This estimation bases on arrested illegal immigrants at the borders and on no-residence-permit-suspects. It is striking that until 2007, the number of illegal immigrants declined, but since then it is growing again.

There may be up to 400.000 illegal immigrants in **Poland** (2010).

Taking all countries into consideration, it is difficult to give a real impression about the problem of illegal immigration because the number can always only be estimated and therefore it is not really useful to compare the situations in the different countries.

Nevertheless it is obvious that the Eastern countries have fewer problems with illegal immigration than the western ones (especially Italy because of its geographic location). But this is not surprising, comparing the number of immigrants in these countries in general.

Questions 19 – 22 (Marcello)

Emigration:

19a) What are the reasons for people who emigrate from your country?

Reasons for people to emigrate from the Netherlands and from Germany are for example pollution, crime or over-population (only the Netherlands). A lot of students leave Italy to study in another country but they are not counted among emigrants.

Emigrants leave Italy and Germany by reason of better living conditions or to take up a job (only Italy) or they emigrate for economic advantages which is also the case for Polish and Lithuanian emigrants. But in contrast this is no emigration reason for Dutch people. Living in a better climate is a motivation mainly for elderly people (pensioners) from Germany.

Additionally, roughly speaking Poland and Lithuania are emigration-countries and Italy, Germany and the Netherlands are immigration-countries.

19b) Which are the most popular destination countries?

Generally speaking, most emigrants of these five countries want to immigrate into other European countries or the USA. Popular destination countries in Europe are France, Great Britain and Spain. Other popular destinations are often the neighbouring countries because of the small distance between the emigration country and the destination country. At this point, Italy is an exception: Numerous Italian emigrants go to South American countries (Brazil, Argentina and Venezuela) and Australia. Emigrants from the Eastern European countries, like Lithuania and Poland, mostly do not immigrate into their Eastern European neighbour countries.

Table 5: Most frequent emigration countries

The Netherlands	Italy	Lithuania	Poland	Germany
Belgium Germany France USA Spain	Germany France Belgium USA Canada Brazil Argentina Venezuela	United Kingdom Ireland Sweden Norway Spain	United Kingdom Ireland Germany The Netherlands	Switzerland USA Austria Great Britain Poland Spain France

20. What is their personal profile?

The Dutch emigrants differ from the Italian and Lithuanian ones in terms of age: The Dutch emigrants are mostly elderly people in contrast to the young Italian and Lithuanian emigrants. There are also social distinctions between the emigrants from the different countries. The emigrants from Lithuania, the Netherlands and from Poland are mostly highly-qualified people like graduates or self-employed people while emigrants from Italy and Germany belong to all social classes and ages. In addition especially German pensioners emigrate in groups, mainly to countries with a milder climate (Spain).

21. Does emigration cause any serious problems in the society?

In Poland not all problems are foreseeable at this time but there is currently a lack of nurses and doctors because too many of them emigrate. Furthermore, the emigration of lots of young people will cause a society built up by older people; thus there will be more pensioners than young people working for their pensions. This problem causes a big economic problem in Lithuania as well as in Poland.

In Italy a similar problem exists: Highly qualified people emigrate and cause brain drain.

22a) Do their wishes and expectations fulfil? *(This question has been cancelled)*

22b) How large is the number of people who return to your country?

There are remarkable differences in the numbers of the repatriates of the different countries. Since the opening of the EU borders in 2004, an unpredictable number (300.000 to 2.000.000) of Polish people emigrated from Poland but only 5.000 of them returned to Poland. In Germany 115.000 emigrants returned to their homeland in 2009 while 155.000 emigrated that year. In Lithuania 37% of all emigrants return; the number of the repatriates is still growing in both Germany and Lithuania. Only a few Italian emigrants return to their homeland after they left it.

22c) from which country do they mainly return?

To sum up, the repatriates come back from all the countries, to which they emigrate first. There are just no noteworthy differences.

Epilogue:

In our research we tried to give an overview about immigration and emigration in five European countries. It is obvious that our results are limited:

- We could not get reliable data on all aspects (for example illegal immigration).
- We finished our research in May 2011. But migration is an ongoing process, and the conditions are changing nearly every single day. We could hardly analyse the consequences of the recent revolutions in Arabic countries for migration in our countries. And we could not at all take into consideration at all the consequences of the free movement for Eastern European member states of the EU which has been fully realised from May 1st, 2011.
- When we speak about migration, it is not enough to deal with statistics and to expose structures and problems: How to deal with migration is a major political problem which the EU has to solve: Is it really a solution in a globalised world to build a wall around Europe in order to prevent immigration, while people in the third world suffer from hunger, political oppression or even war? This question and others were discussed on some of our project meetings and in the forum of our website, but we could not give a solution in our report.

We hope we could however give you an idea of structures and problems of migration. Maybe they can stimulate discussions on how to deal with migration which will be an important topic of the coming years.

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