



International Seminar.  
Recruitment at source, temporary migration and circular  
migration

The development of circular migration in  
Spain under the framework of the European  
Union. Are we talking about the same thing?

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## 1. Introduction

A dubious past, but a hopeful future

Interest in a “win-win-win” situation

Emerging practice in the EU which opens a wide field of analysis to explore

The EU is laying the foundations for a new policy

However, the circular migration policy has a differentiated development





## 1. Introduction

Objectives of the study:

Differences and similarities of circular migration between the EU and Spain

Difficulties in building a common policy framework



## 2. Interest in circular migration from a comparative perspective

Two assumptions on Circular Migration:

“A long term and fluid pattern of continuous movement of people among countries that are increasingly recognized as part of a single economic space“ (Newland, Agunias y Terrazas, 2008: 1)

“Circular migrants benefit from mobility and may contribute to the countries of destination, independent from the countries they originally came from” (Venturini, 2008: 2; Fargues, 2008: 11)





## 2. Interest in circular migration from a comparative perspective

Can we assume both assumptions?

### Past Circular Migration initiatives:

- United States - Mexico: the *Bracero* programme agreement, from 1942 to 1964
- Germany - Turkey: guest worker programme, 1960s and early 1970s
- Gulf System countries, the early 1970s



## 2. Interest in circular migration from a comparative perspective

Present Circular Migration initiatives:

- Seasonal Agricultural Workers' Program (SAWP), Canada
- European Union: North European Countries & South European Countries

**Spain in the EU framework**

**Documents content analysis**





### 3. Circular Migration in the European Union

Migration policy in the EU. Three stages:

Reactive policies: conditionality and readmission

Outsourcing Policy: weight on third states

Partnership policies: including immigrants. Among the initiatives: circular Migration







## Two Approaches to Circular Migration Policy:

### 1. Foreign policy and cooperation:

- The Tampere European Council (1999) already stated that the EU needs a global focus on migration
- Council of Sevilla in 2002, June 21 and 22
- COM (2002) 703 on Integrating migration issues into the EU's relations with third countries

### 2. Policy of economic migration management:

- Green paper on managing economic migration, 2004



## 4. Are we talking about the same thing?

### Categories

1. The objective (philosophy) behind circular migration
2. The concept of circularity
3. Application tools
4. Types of migrants
5. Countries of Origin
6. The development and/or monitoring of initiatives
7. Combination with other actions





#### 4. Are we talking about the same thing?

The objective (philosophy) behind circular migration

##### European Union

- Foreign Policy
- Cooperation and development
- Migrant flows (irregularity)
- Labour market

##### Spain

- Migrant flows (irregularity)
- Labour market
- Cooperation and development



## 4. Are we talking about the same thing?

### The concept of circularity

#### EUROPEAN UNION

- Circular migration vs. temporary migration
- Does not invoke the conception of circular and temporary migration (UN)

#### SPAIN

- Circular and temporary migration, cyclic
- Invokes the conception of circular and temporary migration (UN)





## 4. Are we talking about the same thing?

### Tools

#### EUROPEAN UNION

- Foreign Policy
- Mobility Partnerships (COM (2007) 248)

#### SPAIN

- Labour Market
- Bilateral agreements: contrataciones en origen



## 4. Are we talking about the same?

### Types of migrants

#### EUROPEAN UNION

- Return migration
- Diaspora
- High-skilled workers
- Researchers

#### SPAIN

- Low-skilled workers



## 4. Are we talking about the same thing?

### Countries of Origin

#### European Union

- Moldova
- Georgia
- Cape Verde
- Armenia
- Morocco
- Tunisia
- Egypt

#### Spain

- Colombia
- Ecuador
- Morocco
- Mauretania
- Ukraine
- Dominican Republic



## 4. Are we talking about the same thing?

### Development and Monitoring

#### EUROPEAN UNION

- Minimal legislation
- Responsibility of states (member states and third states) and third sector

#### SPAIN

- Extensive regulation of mobility
- Participation of business sector and labour unions
- Implication of third states







## 4. Are we talking about the same thing?

Combination with other actions

### EUROPEAN UNION

- Packages of mobility measures
- Third countries: control of flows, security, readmission, assisted return
- Members states: cooperation (remittances, brain drain, training, investment)

### SPAIN

- Actions which favour integration of immigrants and development in countries of origin: remittances; development facilitation in countries of origin; circulation and brain drain; training; assisted return – PECE





## 5. Conclusions

The diversity of temporary and circular migration programmes developed in specific contexts

Limitations of the EU policies in the Member States framework