Push or Pull: The Influence of ICT on Emigration Flows

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Presentation Outline

- Research Question
- Theoretical Framework
- Methodology
- Descriptive Statistics
- Results
- Conclusion & Limitations

Motivation & Research Question

Computer mediated communication has created new possibilities for migrants to maintain strong linkages and ties with their home nations (Hiller, 2004)

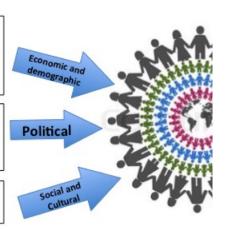
• We are interested in analysing the historical development of ICTs and its impact on migration

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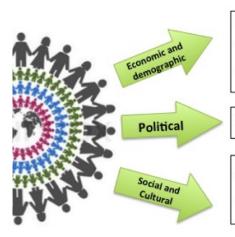
Research Questions: Has the increase use of technologies, such as the Internet and mobile phones affected the flows of emigration?

Theoretical Framework - Push Factors

- Poverty
- Unemployment
- · Low wages
- · High fertility rates
- Lack of basic health and education
- Conflict, insecurity, violence
- · Poor governance
- Corruption
- Human rights abuses
- Discrimination based on ethnicity, gender, religion and the like



Theoretical Framework - Pull Factors



- Prospects of higher wages
- Potential for improved standard of living
- Personal or professional development
- Safety and security
- Political Freedom
- Family reunification
- Ethnic (diaspora
- migration) homeland
- Freedom from discrimination

Methodology

Model 1: Cellphone Users

$$I_{\frac{Migration}{Poptotal}} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 Cell + \beta_2 FertRate + \beta_3 PoliStab + \beta_4 Employ Prob + \epsilon_{it}$$

Model 2: Internet Users

$$I_{\frac{\textit{Migration}}{\textit{Poptotal}}} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \textit{Net} + \beta_2 \textit{FertRate} + \beta_3 \textit{PoliStab} + \beta_4 \textit{EmployProb} + \epsilon_{\textit{it}}$$

Datasets:

UN Migration Stock 1990-2013 and World Bank Indicators

Methodology:

Panel regression with fixed effects



Descriptive Statistics

Slide with Plot

Results: Model 1, Cellphone Users as proxy

 Table 1:Fixed effects regresion

_	Dependent variable:
	logemigrationpercap
CellphoneUsers	0.001***
	(0.0002)
FertilityRate	0.040
	(0.032)
PoliticalStability	-0.059**
	(0.029)
	()
logGDPPerCapita	0.015***
	(0.005)

Results: Model 2, Internet Users as proxy

 Table 2:Fixed effects regresion

_	Dependent variable:
	logemigrationpercap
InternetUsers	0.002*** (0.001)
FertilityRate	-0.010 (0.030)
PoliticalStability	-0.062** (0.029)
logGDPPerCapita	0.020***

Conclusion & Limitations