

# Europe and 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> Century Migration



# Transatlantic Migrations in 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries

- The height of transatlantic migrations- late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries:
  - Europeans left the “Old World” in search of opportunities in countries such as the United States, Canada, Argentina and Brazil
- Push factors:
  - Political factors
  - Economic needs and opportunities
- Emigration and emigrants
  - Derivatives of the French “emigré”

# Migrations in 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries

- Out migrations from Europe coincided with the zenith of imperialism.
  - Movement from Europe to colonies:
    - Missionaries
    - Administrators
    - Soldiers
    - Entrepreneurs
    - Workers
    - Adventurers
  - Movements across non-European territories of the empires
    - Indentured workers

# Migrations Within Europe Mid 20<sup>th</sup> Century

This period was characterized by the reconstruction of northern and western European countries.

Migrations flows were mainly from southern European countries:

Spain  
Greece  
Portugal

Migrants from low-income agricultural regions where unemployment rates were high (e.g. Northern Portugal, Western Spain, Southern Italy, and Northern Greece)

Global IV

Destination: north-western European countries.

France, the United Kingdom, Germany and Belgium had the most immigrant populations from these countries.

## Spain's Past as a Country of Emigrants in Dialogue with Contemporary Immigration in Spain.

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- *Un franco, 14 pesetas* (*Crossing Borders*), Dir. Carlos Iglesias (Spain, 2006)
  - The literal title of the film is “One franc to 14 pesetas” and it alludes to the opportunity of prosperity in pesetas, the Spanish currency at the time, by emigrating to earn Swiss francs.
  - The film is set in the 1960s when two Friends, Marcos and Martín, emigrate to Switzerland without the requisite work permits - illegally- to look for better opportunities for themselves and their families.



Credits: Netflix

# Migrations Within Europe 1963-1973

- In this period the flow of migrants from southern Europe to the western European countries begins to slow down.
- There is increasing migration from southern and eastern Mediterranean countries to Western Europe
  - Main destination countries were France, Germany, Switzerland, Belgium and Austria
  - Migrants from Turkey, for example, begin to replace Italian migrants in Germany and there was more migration from North Africa, especially Algeria, to France.

# Migrations Within Europe 1973-1980s

- Major economic downturn in Europe caused by the 1973-1974 oil crises and resultant economic restructuring reduced the need for labour.
  - Changes in immigration policies to control and reduce migration (e.g. Switzerland and Sweden put an end to migration programs in 1970 and 1972, respectively, Germany in 1973 and France in 1974).
- Return migration:
  - Some immigrants could not renew their contracts due to recession and increasing unemployment rate.
  - Some returned because they had never intended to live abroad forever.
  - Returns, especially later in the 1970s and early 1980s, were triggered by increasing quality of life and employment opportunities in Southern Europe.
- While migration from Southern Europe diminished, it increased from southern and eastern shores of the Mediterranean –Turkey, North Africa.
  - Family unification.
  - Permanent settlement of migrants
  - Economic pressures (unemployment) in countries of origin.



# Migrations to Europe: 1980s-1990s

European Countries continue to discourage migration with restrictive entry policies.


- Outcome
  - From the mid 1980s, migration flows from North Africa and the southern eastern countries of Mediterranean divert to former migrant producing countries on the other side of the Mediterranean – Spain, Portugal, Greece,- where there is increasing economic growth and labour shortage.
  - Migrants also come from other parts of Africa, Latin America, and after the fall of the Berlin Wall, Eastern Europe.

The Schengen Agreement and the removal of internal borders between EU countries with external borders tightly controlled.

- Outcome
  - Increase in irregular migration flow



# Migrations Flow to Europe -21<sup>st</sup> Century

- Economic developments in Spain and Italy have made those two countries destinations for unskilled labour in sectors such as agriculture and construction, caregiving, retail, and hospitality.
    - These two countries have become destinations for migrants Africa, travelling through North Africa, and to a lesser degree from the eastern shore of the Mediterranean (Turkey).
  - Turkey and other countries in the Mediterranean region are also becoming transit countries to Europe.
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# Securiterization of Europe's Southern Borders

- Over the years Spain has increasingly fortified its borders with Morocco in the two Spanish cities in Northern Morocco
  - Ceuta
  - Melilla





