**Ethics Paper Outline**

**Research question:** Should governments place the burden of immigration on their citizens?

**Thesis:** Immigration is positive for both sending and receiving countries, for economic and moral reasons, so it should be fully supported – including financially.

**Arguments:**

* (economic) Receiving countries benefit from an increase in stock of human capital, which, in turn, increases labor productivity and income. There is a net benefit in migration.
* (economic) Immigration is associated with positive externalities (the social benefits outweigh the private benefits above listed). Emigration increases the formation of human capital and addresses credit constraints at origin both in short and long run, increasing total welfare.
* (moral/ethical) People are entitled to the right of mobility, both domestic and internationally, and financial constraints are a limitation of the exercise of such right.
* (moral/ethical) More resourceful societies have an obligation to aid less resourceful ones. As per Rawls democratic equality principle, one has to support the least advantaged side of society.

**Objections:**

* (economic) Immigration depress wages, so reduce welfare.
  + *Counter:* only marginally, overall net benefit still positive.
* (economic) Big migration flows in the short term might create too much of social instability (too much demand vs. fixed supply in destination economy and vice-versa in origin economy), so there wouldn’t enough time for long term equilibrium.
  + *Counter:* governments have the ability and the right to organize immigration flows so as to avoid social instability. Financial support would help set policies running.
* (moral/ethical) Nations are also entitled to self-determination and to choose who gets into their society.
* Is this an obligation?
  + Do receiving countries have a duty to do so?
  + What’s the fair way to allocate costs of migration?
  + Fairness argument, positive right (non necessarly financially), least advantaged.
  + People have a positive right to move.
  + Stanford philosophical dictionary.
  + Ethics, The Journal of Political Philoshophy.
  + The idea of a fair transaction (migrants might be exploited, because benefits are distributed unevenly).
  + Think about this from close borders and open borders approaches.

**A New Immigration Policy Recommendation**

The moral and economic benefits of migration are already present in sending/receiving countries. Taxation is one of the ways to reduce the fundamentally unjust burden that migrants have to pay for their right.