

Urban Challenges and Sustainable Technological Revolution



Special Session Proposal

Drivers and impacts of migration: new insights on the role of local labour markets, human capital, remote work, and (family) networks

Organizers

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Abstract

The movement of people across space, or sometimes rather the lack thereof, is now considered to be of paramount importance for the dynamics of regional disparities in growth and productivity, and for the redistribution of labour and human capital in particular.

During the Covid-19 pandemic, new opportunities for tele-commuting emerged, as labour markets adapted to the challenges and opportunities of home working. At the same time, incentives to move to smaller areas became stronger in order to avoid the public health and lockdown challenges of larger cities, and to benefit from access to space and nature. Thus, migration flows may have (temporarily or somewhat permanently) shifted from dense to less dense areas. We therefore raise the question, how has this external shock had an influence on individual migration decisions, beyond the immediate period of the Covid pandemic.

This special session aims to discuss all aspects of migration: the drivers, costs, and impacts from a variety of perspectives.

Submissions are welcome that focus on issues such as

- Regional growth perspectives and welfare,
- Gains and costs of out- and in-migration for states, regions, firms and individuals
- Labour market effects and potential labour shortages or brain drain,
- Human capital and the re-distribution of people in space,
- Potential discrimination and other negative effects,

- Psychological aspects and the acceptance of migrants,
- Cultural, social, and economic integration from the perspective of migrants and local communities,
- Tele-commuting and commuting as alternatives to migration,
- Individual decision modelling and family attachment, or
- any other issue related to drivers or impacts of interregional migration in the home and host city or region.