

Migration

CASE STUDY: Post Accession Labour Flows from Eastern Europe (Poland) to the UK:

Attractions from the UK:

- Wages for nurses are 4x the amount that they'd get paid in Latvia
- In 2007 1.3million Poles had moved to the UK for seasonal work, however many of them remained in the UK
- Free healthcare – the NHS spent £350 million on maternity services for foreign born mothers
- Easy migration – only the UK, Sweden and Ireland allowed the free movement of people from the new countries which joined in 2004.
- Good exchange rate means that a few pound earned in the UK, works out to be a lot of Zloty (Polish currency) in Poland.

Why leave?

- Lack of work, with a decline in agriculture. There is a now a steady 17% unemployment rate
- Low average wages - average income in the EU in 2004 was 5x less than in Poland
- Low availability of housing, for empale in 2004 there were 30 dwellings for every 1000 people.

Impacts:

	<u>Source Benefits</u>	<u>Source Negaties</u>	<u>Host Benefits</u>	<u>Host Negatives</u>
<i>Economy</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Polish economy grows as remittances are sent home - in 2006 it was €3.5 billion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Shortages of labourers age working age men leave - economy doesn't grow - Migrants who settle only send 8% of money back home 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fill gaps in skills e.g builders - Workers will work for less than British workers e.g. £60 per day for builders rather than £120 for a British builder 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Money earned by Polish isn't all spent in the UK but sent back home - Drives wages down for British builders
<i>Social</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Skills learnt by migrants are taken back to Poland - Unemployment rate reduced 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Poland's pop. has shrunk e.g fell 0.3% in 2003-2007 - Birth rate decreased as those of reproductive age leave 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Migration of working age people has helped to counteract the UK's ageing population - Increased Polish culture e.g. food shops in the West Midlands 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased strain on services e.g. NHS and education - Demand for resources such as housing leads to shortages, therefore increasing prices.
<i>Environmental</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Less pressure on resources such as land 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased migration has meant increased air travel e.g 3.3 million in 2006 - GHGs

CASE STUDY: Retirement flows to the Mediterranean

A large number of elderly people from the UK emigrate to Mediterranean countries such as Spain for their retirement. They do this because:

- The climate is often around 10°C warmer with less rainfall, which can lead to health improvements e.g. arthritis
- The lifestyle is often very relaxed and 'spontaneous'
- Lower crime rates as there isn't a much of a youthful population in Spain
- The cost of living is a lot cheaper, for example utility bills are often around 60% cheaper.
- The values of properties in the UK is high at the moment, so the money from the sale can help buy them a new home, as well as support them through their retirement
- Due to the accessibility of air travel, a shrinking world effect has occurred. This means that it is easy to travel to Spain in under 5 hours, meaning friends and family can visit them easily and still in contact



Consequences:

	Negatives
Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Many houses don't have access to water, so it is fed to them via deposit tanks which isn't safe to drink- There have been 50,000 illegal homes built in Spain, which British people buy and become liable for- Coastal developments have led to the destruction of natural landscapes and habitats
Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- The postal system is not very organised and is very unreliable- Health systems are struggling to cope with the influx of elderly people who become sick easily- All healthcare requires you to pay, unlike the free NHS in the UK
Social	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Many emigrants cannot speak Spanish and are therefore hindered by the language barrier.

