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EDICIONES COMPLUTENSE

Factors that influence immigration to OECD member States

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Abstract. This study aims to identify factors related to the Immigration rates experienced by OECD member states, it focused on "net immigration rates" as the main dependent variable. We considered that "Demand- Pull" factors that trigger variations on the immigration rates are perceived economic stability and their socio-political stance toward immigrants.
Even though the two of the proposed hypotheses in this study were rejected, other variables which seem to have a greater impact on migration, such a trade and globalization were identified. As the indices globalization increase, the rates of immigration seem to increase, in contrast there is a negative correlation between the variable trade and immigration, findings that seemed to be supported by empirical evidence provided by other scholars presented in this report.
Keywords: Demand-Pull factors; Immigration; OECD Member States.

[es] Factores que influyen en la inmigración a los Estados miembros de la Organización para la Cooperación y el Desarrollo Económico (OCDE)

Resumen. Este estudio pretende identificar los factores relacionados con las tasas de migración hacia los países miembros de la Organización para la Cooperación y el Desarrollo Económico (OCDE). Se centra en las "tasas de inmigración netas" como la principal variable dependiente. Se considera que los factores de "demanda-atracción" que provocan variaciones en las tasas de inmigración entre los estados están relacionados con su precepción de estabilidad económica y su posición sociopolítica hacia los inmigrantes. Se rechazaron las dos hipótesis propuestas; no obstante, se identifican otras variables que parecen tener un mayor impacto en la migración, como el comercio y la globalización. A medida que se elevan los índices de globalización, las tasas de inmigración parecen aumentar también; en cambio, existe una correlación negativa entre las variables comercio e inmigración. Las conclusiones parecen estar respaldadas por las evidencias empíricas aportadas por otros académicos mencionados en este informe.
Palabras clave: Factores de demanda, Inmigración, Estados miembros, OCDE.

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Introduction

The history of mankind has been determined by population fluctuations around the world. The successes and developments of many nations is deeply rooted to their immigration antecedents; this phenomenon, which is intrinsic to our social systems has continued to puzzle

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social scientist who attempt to the explain it and determine its driving factors.

Immigration has become a central aspect of national and international politics of the Twenty First Century. The immigration debate not only affects domestic politics, it has an increasing impact on the international relations arena. Major labor importing states are currently faced with the challenges of coordinating policies for controlling immigration rates.

Immigration issues have shifted from "Low Politics" or matters of domestic control to "High Politics", where matters such as war and economic instability have propelled a higher immigrating influx around the world. In the light of ever-growing terrorist organizations, especially in the Middle East, an increased emphasis of controlled immigration has been placed by many OECD states. These nations are reconsidering their stance on immigration, since it could become a pathway to terrorist mobilization and threat to their national security (Martin and Yanakay, 2014).

Hollifield, Martin, & Orrenius reported:

> Intense pressure has been placed into the United Nations High Commission for Refugees, many nations are trying to manage the increased flow of asylum seekers. There is an intrinsic link between the increasing mobility of people and the structural changes of the international political economy within the international system (2015, p.7).

Other authors such as Fitzgerald, Leblang & Teets (2014) state that immigration is an integral part of the ongoing process of globalization. The United Nations estimates that in 2010 one out of every twenty-five persons lived outside of his or her country of birth. Most likely this number will increase in the years to come and the countries of choice are United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, France, Spain, Germany, and Australia; most of them members of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, OECD states.

Often, Immigration is defined as the movement of people from one geographic location to another, whether this process is a mobilization within the same country, across international borders, voluntary or involuntary, it involves transition, change and adjustment. According to the United Nations, the number of international migrants has increased to nearly 80.000.000 in the last 25 years (Feller, 2006). In fact, there are more than 231.000.000 of immigrants living around the world. While The United States (U.S.), has reported the presence of more than 45 million of immigrants in its territories; other countries such as Russia and Saudi Arabia have reported the presence of 11 million and nine million of migrants respectively (United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division, 2017).

The United States Census bureau research release of 2015 reported that by the year of 2023 one in every seven U.S. residents will be foreign born. The future size of immigrant population in United States is rapidly growing, by the year of 2023 the immigrant population will reach the 51 million mark, and by 2060 the migrant population will account for the 82 per cent of US population growth. The research bureau further stated that immigrant population will grow nearly four times faster than native-born population in the United States (as cited by Glanfield, 2015).

In the political field, scholars consider that immigration has become one of the most divisive political issues in several nations. Controversial debates over immigration include: the integration of the already settled migrants, access to citizenship, and their political participation. Immigration rates are very often important factors in electoral debates. Most of these nations are caught between the dilemma of opening their borders, but at same time maintaining national satisfaction (Hangartner & Hainmueller, 2013).

In the field of Social Sciences there are several approaches which attempt to explain the phenomenon of migration. Early migration theories emphasized economic factors such as work availability and the demand of cheap labor as the main driving forces for migration around the world (Parkins, 2010). The Neo-Classical Economic Theory, which is also recognized as the oldest best-known theory of international migration claims that people decide whether or not to migrate based on work that is immediately available to them. Macro Theorists such as Wallenstein propose that "migration is mainly a means to mobilizing cheap labor for capital which perpetuates uneven development and the exploitation of poor peoples in order to make rich countries richer" (as cited by Parkins, 2010). On the other hand, micro-theorists propose that individuals, acting as rational actors decide to migrate because

the cost-benefit calculation. These theories suggest that individuals move across different geographical spaces where they determine that they can be more productive. Even though these theories attempt to be comprehensive, there are multiple limitations to the Macro and Micro perspectives since they do not always take systemic factors into account.

According to Castles and Miller, the systems theory of migration, which considers international relations, politics, economy, and industrial factors could provide a better understanding of the migration phenomena. From this approach "migration movements occur from the existence of prior links between sending and receiving countries, based on colonization, political influence, trade, investment and cultural ties" (as cited in Parkins, 2010, p.14).

According to Piesse (2014), an individual's decision to relocate to another country could be determined by one of two factors: the domestic forces which are also known as Push Factors, these encourage individuals to leave their home country. Major push factors influencing migration include, but are not limited to, general crime and violence, unstable economy which in turn affects an individual's social and economic opportunities, as well as career advancement.

Many Push Factors influencing migration are difficult to predict, they are referred to as socio-political, economic, and environmental factors; they trigger population influx around the globe. Piesse further stated that social push factors can include ethnic, racial, and cultural persecution.

At the same time, some conditions in foreign countries, also known as "Pull Factors" such as economic stability, friendly policies toward immigrants contribute to the migration processes.

Labor standards, unemployment and a country's overall economy influence economic migration. These migrants are drawn toward more developed countries due to prospects of better incomes and employment opportunities. Lastly, Piesse mentions ecological factors, such as climate change as being influential. Current environmental changes can be an additional catalyst to the socio-political, and economic push- pull factors previously mentioned.

A most recent approach to the immigration phenomena is presented by Hollifield, Martin & Orrenius who analyze the administrative, political, legal and economic difficulties of immigration enforcement among industrialized countries. They present "demand-pull" factors that attract immigrants to certain countries such as the OECD states. The "supply-push" factors such as a rapid growing population, combined with low rates of economic growth and higher rates of unemployment cannot be controlled or predicted, consequently labor exporting countries will continue to be a part of the unbalanced trade. These scholars further mention the presence of trade and globalization as contributing factors to the increased migration influxes around the globe.

The Neoclassical Push-Pull argument provides with a straightforward explanation for the increase rates in immigration. The Demand- Pull, in the US and European economies during the 1950's and 1960's triggered a great scale of migration from poorer economies. The movement of labor from south to north became a driving factor for economic growth in Western Europe and North America (Hollifield, Martin & Orrenius, 2015). These authors suggest that Demand- Pull factors, initiated a process of mobilization across nations. Despite certain economic pitfalls, such as the recent economic crisis in the United States, the immigration rates have continued to grow. They suggests that we should consider both The Push- Pull forces which initially created imbalances between the economies of the North and South, but they add they are not the only conditions for the current increase in immigration rates.

Along these lines, other authors such as Peters (2015), have made intriguing arguments for the role of "Trade" as a determining factor of immigration rates. This author analyzes how migration flows affect capital flows; explaining that during the Nineteenth Century, which was generally considered a period of open immigration, trade policies were relatively close and rigid, years later increased openness to trade policies triggered restrictions on immigration policies. However, an interesting phenomenon occurred after the World War II, where many nations remained open to trade, but continued to restrict immigration. Peters (2015) argues that increasingly open trade policies have led conversely to increasingly restrictive immigration policies. Several factors that need to be considered in the analysis on immigration and trade are presented by Peters, who further states "when policymakers choose to open trade, even as benevolent social plan-

ners, they choose it because it will increase national income" (p.140).

Peters presents couple of plausible models of explanation. According to the Lobbing Model, policy makers will be inclined to open trade if the export-oriented firms can provide with political capital to override the offer of the import competing capital. This argument suggests that population mobilizations of the twenty first century are deeply affected by economic factors, and trade policies that could increase or deter the demand for migrant labor. An alternative model of analysis is presented "Endogenous Trade Model", where policymakers could be induced to open trade, taking the risk of the economic losses and at same time restricting migration.

Literature on International Relations has referenced the correlation between immigration and economic stability. It is speculated that migrants will choose locations where income and wages are relatively high in comparison to the cost of relocation. Consequently, wealthy states are more likely to attract higher rates of immigrants (Peters, 2015).

Other factors potentially influencing this relationship between trade and immigration are immigration policies, systemic variables, and democracy. The conceptualization of immigration policies is a complex one, one of the dimensions utilized to explored state's openness to migration is state's openness to refugees and those seeking asylum. Peters further reports "most of the OECD states are restricting immigration more today than they did in the previous years". Modern democracies will be more inclined to provision of liberties and human rights and recognition of personal liberties than autocracies, consequently they will become more attractive destinations for migrants.

Authors such as Fitzgerald, Leblang & Teest, (2014) argue in addition to the economic, trade, globalization, and social networks considered as Pull factors; the political environment of the country of destination influence a migrant's decision to relocate. These authors report that a state's willingness to grant citizenship to the foreign born, as well as the provision for political voice and access to the labor market seem to be attractive factors for immigrants.

However, the political environment will fluctuate according to the states national's attitude toward immigration. Authors such as Hainmueller & Hangartner (2013) suggest that despite the large body of research and information relative to the attitudes toward immigration in Europe and U.S, there is still a lack of agreement on the prevalence of causes of the anti-immigrant sentiment. These authors provide in-depth information regarding the increasing debates over naturalization policies, and how this one is a central point of consideration for migration flows. They report that domestic factors such as public opinion need to be considered, national opposition toward migration could lead to more restrictive migration policies, and at same time segmented social structures where discrimination and ethnic fractionalization will create hostile environments for future migrants.

A complex phenomenon such as immigration, has many driving factors. According to an economic model of explanation, wealthy states will be more popular destinations despite their geographical location since the cost of relocation will be overridden by the expectation of wealth and uncertain promise of income obtained upon relocation. In this study, perception of a state's economic stability and their socio-political stance toward immigration were considered as main Pull Factors that drive higher migration rates among OECD states.

1. Method

1.1. Design and hypothesis

Identifying the Pull Factors driving different migration rates among states influenced this study. Our unit of analysis were each individual state, and in order to test our working hypothesis H3, OECD membership was considered. For methodological purposes, the following variables were considered:

1.1.1. Dependent variable - immigration rates

Often defined as the number of reported foreign born citizens within the state. Martin (2014) makes an important distinction between different types of immigrants, especially the ones resettled to the United States and OECD states. He distinguishes three main categories: immigrants, temporary visitors, and unauthorized foreigners. From this main categorization, he describes several sub-categories:

- *Immigrants*: Immigrants who hold a visa due to family reunification, and Employed Base Visas
- *Refugees and asylum-seekers:* The definition of asylum seeker or refugee is rather complex and dyadic. The realist takes into account the process by which individuals establish their relationship with the state. From the realist perspective the asylum-seeker is categorized under the general umbrella of the United Nations definition of "refugee" or a person who "owing to a well-founded fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality and is unable or, with such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of that country". (Cited in Hein, 1993). While the nominalist perspective, describes the asylum-seeker refugee is a social construction, determined by the states and socio-political factors within a determined social structure.
- *Diversity immigrants* - recipients of the lottery visa
- *Temporary Visitors*: Students and temporary workers who obtain temporary residency in the US or European countries based on the criteria of studies or guest worker programs (Martin, 2014).
- *Unauthorized Foreigners:* The individuals who have entered the US or OECD nations' borders without inspections, also called illegal immigrants. This category includes individuals that have entered the county on a legal basis, and then violated their legal entry by not departing in the allocated time or working illegally (Martin, 2014).

These descriptors are important elements on the definition of our dependent variable, since we will consider "Net Migration rates" or total number of immigrants among different states. The data for this variable was collected from the World Bank dataset, under the category "Net Migration", which is operationalized as the total number of migrants during a five-year period.

> The United Nations Population Division provides data on net migration and migrant stock. Because data on migrant stock is difficult for countries to collect, the United Nations Population Division takes into account the past migration history of a country or area, the migration policy of a country, and the influx of refugees in recent periods when deriving estimates of net migration. The data to calculate these estimates come from a variety of sources, including border statistics, administrative records, surveys, and censuses (World Bank, 2017).

According to our theoretical framework, two Pull Factors - Demand were considered as main independent variables for this research: economic factors and socio-political factors of the countries of destination.

1.1.2. Independent variable - economic factors

The economic model of migration support "immigration occurs when expected wages in a destination exceed those in the country of origin." Following the guidelines of this model, immigration is driven by higher average wages in the destination or by lower average wages in the country of origin (Fitzgerald Leblang & Teets, 2014). Consequently, this variable will be operationalized as follows:

General Economic Indicators: General Economic stability of a nation is considered as a factor that pulls many migrant movements around the world. The economic stability of states, will be measured by the following indicators.

- *GDP:* the sum of gross value added by all resident producers in the economy plus any product taxes and minus any subsidies not included in the value of the products. Data are in current U.S. dollars (World Bank, 2017).
- *GDP growth:* An economy's growth is measured by the change in the volume of its output or in the real incomes of its residents (World Bank, 2017).
- *GINI:* gross national income divided by midyear population. GNI (formerly GNP) is the sum of value added by all resident producers plus any product taxes (less subsidies) not included in the valuation of output plus net receipts of primary income (compensation of employees and property income) from abroad. Data are in constant 2005 U.S. dollars (World Bank, 2017).

Some control variable to consider under this category of global economic indicators are

- Trade: percentage of the exchange of goods between countries, coded as Trade Flows 2005 (Freedom House, 2017)
- Globalization Index: incorporates the economic, social and political dimensions of globalization. Globalization index is measured by the actual flows of trade, foreign direct investment and portfolio investment, as well as the restrictions applying to these flows coded as Globalization Index 2005 (Freedom House, 2017).

Domestic Economic Indicators:

- *Unemployment:* The standard definition of unemployed persons is those individuals without work, seeking work in a recent past period, and currently available for work (World Bank, 2017).
- *Government expenditure on education,* which is calculated by dividing total government expenditure for all levels of education by the GDP, and multiplying by 100 (World Bank, 2017).
- *Government expenditure on health,* which is calculated by is the sum of public and private health expenditure. It covers the provision of health services (preventive and curative), family planning activities, nutrition activities, and emergency aid designated for health but does not include provision of water and sanitation (World Bank, 2017).
- *Equal income*: perception of equitability in the income scale (Freedom House, 2017).

1.1.3. Independent variable- socio political factors

When considering the sociopolitical factors that influence immigration, several indicators will determine a country's willingness to open their labor markets as well as their social system to foreign born individuals. The political regime is of greater importance, since it will reflect the leverage immigrants will have in a country of resettlement. According to Fitzgerald, Leblang & Teets, (2014) the political environment provides a set of rights that are important for immigrants. These include citizenship provisions, asylum provisions, language requirements and birth base citizenship. We estimated that democracies, will be more tolerant and respectful of these rights among immigrants, by allowing a political voice and access to labor markets, democracies will become more attractive destination for migrants. Under this factor we considered following indicators

- *Democracy:* FH democracy scale 2005, Democracy: ordinal 10-point rating scale-Low to High (Freedom House, 2017)
- *Number of asylees:* States with higher number of refugees, represent an open social political stance toward migrants. Data collected from the World Bank under this category show the number people who are recognized as refugees under the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees or its 1967 Protocol. These data is correlated to the country of asylum, where an asylum claim was filed and granted (World Bank, 2017).
- *Number of foreign born*: Number of individuals who were not born in the state of residency (Freedom House, 2017)

1.1.4. Control variables

Environmental Factors and population increase were variables that were not considered in our models of analysis. Further discussion of their impact will be addressed in the conclusion, when addressing the limitations of this study.

Table 1. Summary Statistics

Variable	Mean	Std.Dev	MIn	Max	N
International Migration Stock	822238.86	1717241.52	151	12270388	207
GDP growth	2.61	3.528	-8	13	189
GINI growth	3.74	4.835	-17	22	141
Percentage of GDP expenditure on Health	6.68	2.730	1	17	181
Percentage of GDP expenditure on Education	1.937	1.937	1	13	118
N-Refugees	94146.75	326145.437	1	2450381	162
FH Standardized Scale - Democracy	67.2810	27.70773	14.20	99.40	189
Globalization Index	58.27	16.625	22	92	119
Trade	65.787	19.2233	19.5	100.0	107
Proportion of foreign born	6.081	11.9148	0.1	90.2	121
Economic equality scale	58.191	7.3672	24.8	73.5	72
Income equality scale	6.003	1.0048	2.9	8.7	72

1.1.5. Hypotheses

H1- Contrasting the Pull-Demand factors

In a comparison of states, those having more economic stability, will be more likely to have increased number of migration rates than will those having less economic stability.

H2- Contrasting the Political arena (favorable policies toward migrants)

In a comparison of sates, those countries will more favorable policies toward migrants, will be more likely to trigger higher rates of migration than those states with fewer favorable policies.

H3-In a comparison states, OECD states will be more likely to have higher influx of migration than non-OECD states.

1.2. Procedure

The data collect for this study was obtained from the World Bank and Freedom House data banks; once we merged them into one SPSS data set, we identified skewness of dependent variable values- net migration rate (Figure 1);

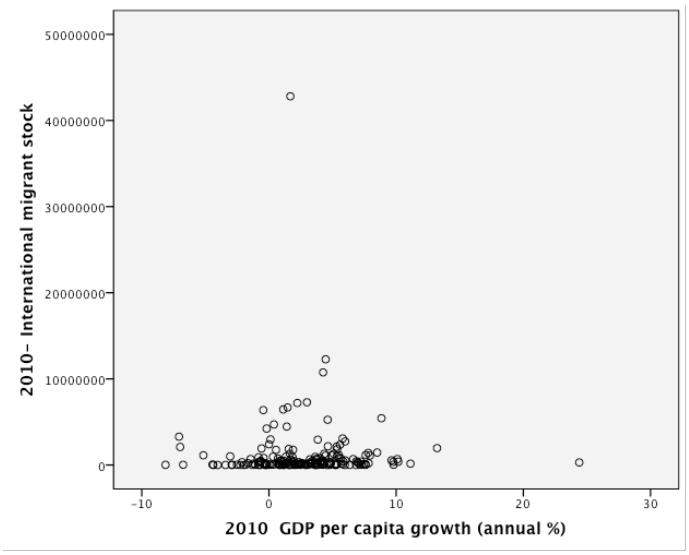

Figure 1. Net migration rates for 191 countries.

We proceeded to the identification and elimination of outliers (Figure 2);

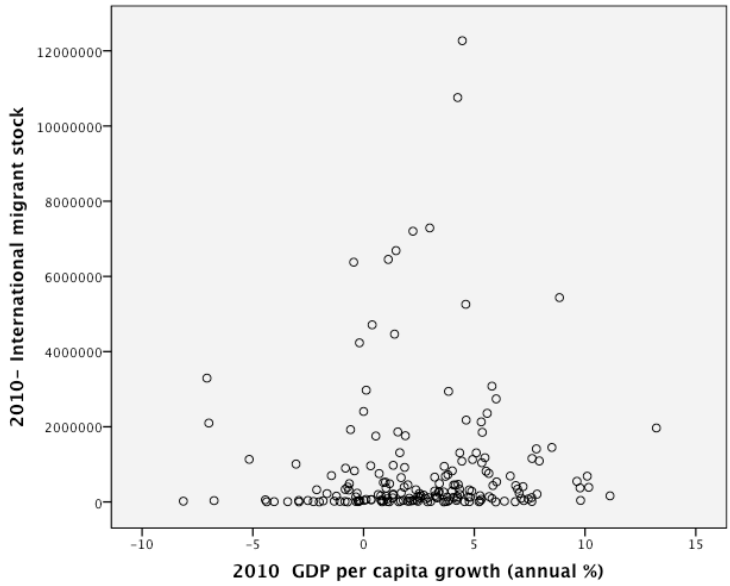

Figure 2. Net migration rates without outliers
- US- International Migrant stock.
- Macau/SAR-China. GDP % annual growth

As well as the transformation of its values, Log10 (logarithmic expression) obtaining Log 10 Net Migration Rate (Figure 3).

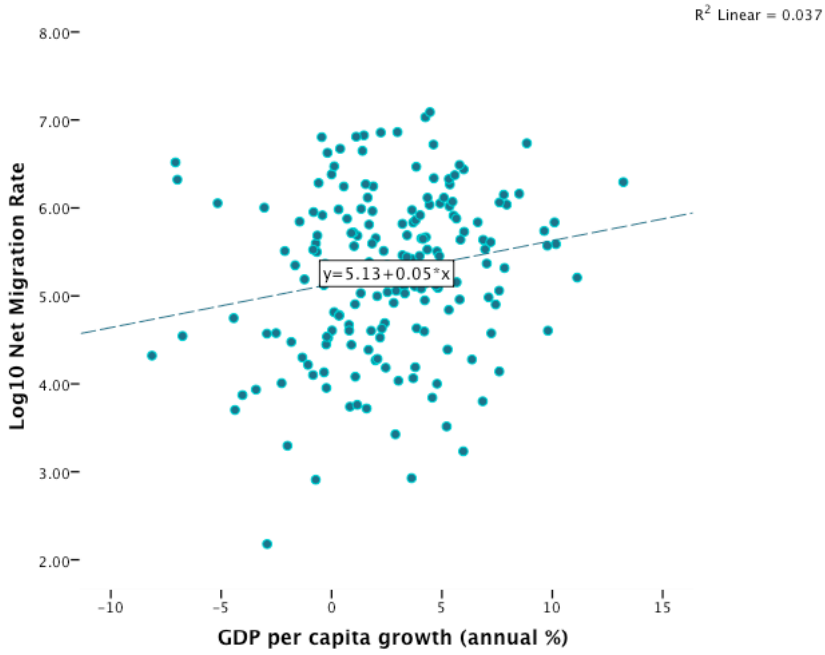

Figure 3. Log 10 Net Migration and GDP per capita

The use of the Log. 10 net migrant stock variables will helps us account for the variations that will be described in our regression models. One of the major obstacles to estimate an empirical model of international migration flows is obtaining a comparable and reliable data for the dependent variable. The collection of statistics related to migration varies considerable among different states. Moreover, in order to measure the economic conditions across potential destinations: general economic indices were considered for our regression model, accounting for the control variables of trade, and globalization. The first level of analysis included bivariate correlations. Pearson's coefficients helped up to determine the correlation of the variables among themselves, prevent multicollinearity and determine which variables will be include in our models.

Due to the variations in our results, when including the control variables we isolated their effects running multivariate regressions considering variables trade, and globalization in a separate model. Most of the domestic socio-economic factors were accounted in Pearson's Correlation values (Appendix-1) due to lack of significance among these variables, these values were not account for the construction of our Models. A bivariate regression between DV and unemployment was considered but not added to our model (Apendix-2)

The measurement of the socio-political characteristics, indicators of democracy, foreign born individuals and asylees were added to Model 4. A bivariate correlation between LogNetMig and GDP was done, in order to determine the impact of this dummy variable.

Lastly the ordinal variable Democracy was included in a multivariate regression in order to control the effect of Democracy, among OECD states.

2. Results

The results of our empirical analysis are reported in Table 2 reports, where we describe Model 1, which includes the variables GDP *per capita*, GDP growth and GINI values as a base line to determine which economical variable will account for most of the variations. In Model 1 we find support for the economic stability hypothesis which involves increasing values in the GDP and GINI will increase Net migration rates; these findings are consistent with the economic model where pull factors of economic stability will attract higher number of immigrants. However, when introducing two control variables globalization index and trade index as evidenced in Model 2, variables GPD and GINI seem to lose effect on the net immigration rates. This lack of statistical significance as demonstrated below, is evidenced that initial relation evidenced on Model 1 is a spurious one. Consequently, the GDP, GDP growth and GINI coefficients are not strong predictors of the Pull factors that influence on the destination of the future immigrants.

Table.2 Pull Factors on Immigration Rates

Dependent variable is Immigration stock (Log NetMig) World Bank 2010				
	Model 1	Model 2	Model 3	Model 4
GDP per capita	1.326 E-5 ** (3.931)	-9.934 E-7 (-.255)		-1.636 E-6 (-.326)
GPD growth	.044 * (2.82)	0.029 (1.841)		
GINI	2.025 E-13** (4.296)	8.289 E-14 (2.312)		1.018 E-13* (3.179)
Globalization Index		.036** (6.292)	0.040** 9.159	.032 ** (4.088)
Trade		-.018 ** (-4.212)	-0.022** (-5.913)	-.014* (-2.988)
Refugee Population				4.079 E-7 (2.661)
Foreign Born Population				0.12 (2.089)

FH- Democracy				-.004 (-1.180)
OECD member state				.076 (.344)
Observations				
R-Squared	0.215	0.477	0.445	3.278

Note: Robust t statistics in parentheses. *significant at 5%; ** significant at 1%

In order to determine the impact of these control variables, we considered their correlation values P= 0.675 at a 0.01 level of significance (Apendix1- Correlations Table) which indicate that the effect of these variables might be an additive one. Consequently, we ran a multivariate regressions in order to further isolate the impact of the control variables on the net migration rates. As presented in Model 3 (Table 2); there is a significant correlation between globalization indexes and net migration rates. This is maintained, as we see and increase on globalization indexes, there will be an increased on their migration rates of 0.040. Moreover, considering our theoretical framework, we observe the negative relationship between migration rates and trade, which is consisted with the findings presented by Peters (2015).

The relevance of our findings is in the Model 4 of Table 2, where we added socio-political variables as well as the main economic factors that were considered in this study along with the nominal variable of OECD membership. These estimates evidence that globalization and trade indexes maintain a substantively important effect on net immigration rates.

In order to test H3, we considered convenient a bivariate regression model, considering (OCED membership as a dummy variable), which can take the values of (1=OECD member and 0= Non-OECD member) (Figure 4).

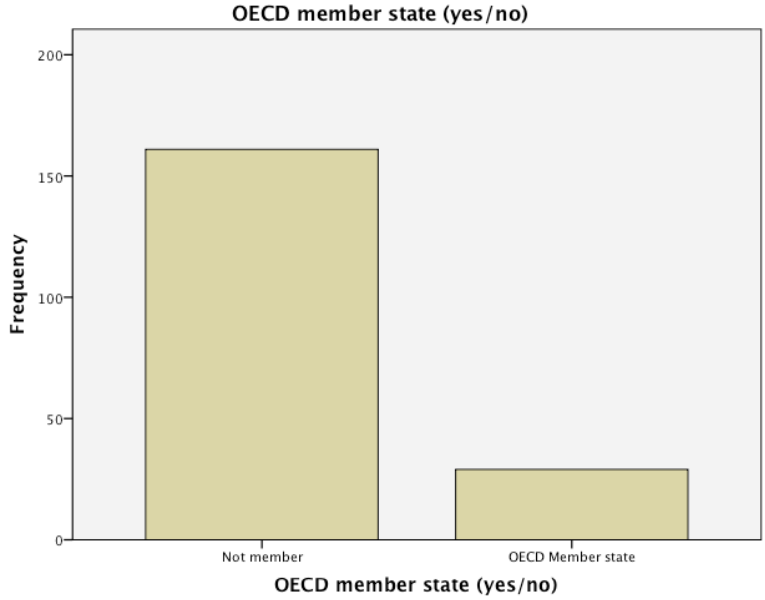

Fig 4. Frequency Distribution -OECD membership

According to the coefficients, the regression equation considering OECD membership is as follows: LOG NET-MIGRATION RATE= 5.172 +0.922*(OECD member state)

Log Net migration rates for non-OECD member states is 5.172. In comparison to OECD member states with LogNet migration rate of OECD is 6.094. Since these results are statistically significant, due to our P value of 0.000, we can infer that results were not produced by sampling error. Moreover, membership to an OECD member state accounts for

the 14.7 % of the variation on Log net immigration rates, as evidenced by the R-square of .147. As result of this finding the H3 was accepted, membership to and OECD will signify and increase on Migration rates.

When controlling for the variable Democracy, OECD membership remains significant at the P value of 0.000 and the R-square of.148. Log. NetMigLog = 5.439 - 0.10 *(Polity Democracy) + 0.782*(OECD member)

Even though the results of our analysis do not support formulated H1 and H2, they provide a compelling and interesting evidence on the study of immigration flows. From these findings we infer that immigration influx can not only be conceived in terms of perceived economic stability, but also due to systemic factors related to trade, globalization. These findings correlate to theoretical framework presented in this study.

Robustness:

We evaluated the robustness of our findings in a couple of ways. Due to the abnormal distribution of our data, the Log 10, values of the dependent variable, these values were considered for our analysis (Fig.3). Moreover, we replicated Model 2 and Model 3, from the data taking out the outliers from the sample.

The level of significance on the variables GINI, and GDP per capita are maintained as observed in the Model 5 (Table 3.). However, we observed same loss of significance when control variables trade and globalization index were introduced, see Model 6 (Table 3.)

Table 3 Pull Factors on Immigration Rates

Dependent variable is Immigration stock (Log NetMigrate) without Outliers		
	Model 5	Model 6
GDP per capita	1.337 E-5** (3.832)	-1.058E-6 (-.277)
GPD growth	.051 * (2.89)	0.027 (1.678)
GINI	3.398 E-13** (4.108)	1.062 E-13 (1.604)
Globalization Index		.036** (5.900)
Trade		-.017 ** (-3.920)
Observations		
R-Squared	0.218	0.438

Note: Robust t statistics in parentheses. *significant at 5%; ** significant at 1%

3. Discussion and Conclusion

The results presented in this paper provide us with interesting insight regarding immigration flows to the OECD states. We agree with the argument presented by many scholars presented in the analysis on this paper, the study of migration requires and integrated approach, where political, economic and social factors are accounted into plausible models of empirical explanation. This study considered the economic the model due to current political debate in OECD nations, where migration policies became politized, and used as part of political agendas. According to the economic model, wealth and employment opportunities are important drivers for immigration; however, **systemic pull factors such globalization and trade appear as stronger predictors**, which were systematically reported by Peters (2015).

The OECD membership appears to be a strong predictor of higher migration rates. However, further investigation should examine socio-political and economic variables that are particular to these states.

With regards of the domestic economic factors, we have identified the need to better understand these variables. The indicators considered in this study, are not accurate de-

scriptors of more or less immigrant friendly environments.

The consideration of socio-political factors should be further explored. The indicators chosen for this study were limited but provide a solid jumping off point for further investigation. Considering the complexity of these variables, political factors could shape the choices made by future immigrants, as well as the nationals of the countries of relocation. As reported by Fitzgerald, Leblang & Teets (2014) political considerations shape migration choices, individuals will relocate to states where they can be participant actors and exercise of their rights. Other shortcomings of this study are the lack of consideration of other variables as social networks. These can account for significant pull factors in the light of globalization and increased access to international communications. Considering that globalization is considered as an index is measured by the actual flows of trade, foreign direct investment and portfolio investment, as well as the restrictions applying to these flows coded as Globalization Index 2005 (Freedom House, 2017). An extensive review of the globalization process could require another study, which is greatly recommended.

Among some of the limitations considered in this study, we must mention that most of the indices are taken from data bases, such as net migration, as the total of foreign-born residents. Other factors such as asylum or refugee status, should be further studied. Other models of analysis might be needed.

Whenever studying migration, we must consider contextual factors, explain the whole phenomena might be complex, but attempting to build models of analysis considering specific variables is also subject to a temporary time frame, due to the dynamic nature of the phenomena. However, it provides an starting point for further study and debate.

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Appendix 1

Correlations

		2010 GNI growth (annual %)	Trade flows 2005 (KOF 2008)	Globalization index 2005 (KOF)	NETMIGLOG
2010 GDP per capita	Pearson Correlation	-.014	.474**	.735**	.172*
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.872	.000	.000	.017
	N	143	108	118	193
2010 GDP per capita growth (annual %)	Pearson Correlation	.786**	-.006	-.089	.176*
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.947	.337	.016
	N	143	108	118	189
2010 GNI (current US$)	Pearson Correlation	.037	-.150	.262**	.372**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.660	.123	.004	.000
	N	143	107	117	188
2010 GNI growth (annual %)	Pearson Correlation	1	-.105	-.067	.160
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.321	.503	.059
	N	143	92	102	141
Trade flows 2005 (KOF 2008)	Pearson Correlation	-.105	1	.675**	.027
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.321		.000	.785
	N	92	108	108	108
Globalization index 2005 (KOF)	Pearson Correlation	-.067	.675**	1	.473**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.503	.000		.000
	N	102	108	120	120
NETMIGLOG	Pearson Correlation	.160	.027	.473**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.059	.785	.000	
	N	141	108	120	209

**. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

*. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

Correlations

		NETMIGLOG	2010 Government expenditure on education (% of GDP)	2010 Health expenditure (% of GDP)	economic equality scale WVS
NETMIGLOG	Pearson Correlation	1	-.134	.029	-.073
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.143	.697	.547
	N	209	120	187	70
2010 Government expenditure on education (% of GDP)	Pearson Correlation	-.134	1	.324**	-.159
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.143		.000	.266
	N	120	120	115	51
2010 Health expenditure (% of GDP)	Pearson Correlation	.029	.324**	1	-.291*
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.697	.000		.015
	N	187	115	188	69
economic equality scale WVS	Pearson Correlation	-.073	-.159	-.291*	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.547	.266	.015	
	N	70	51	69	73
2010	Pearson Correlation	-.109	.159	.113	-.066
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.158	.099	.149	.591
	N	170	108	164	69

Appendix 2

Coefficients[a]

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	5.569	.108		51.673	.000
	2010	-.015	.010	-.109	-1.419	.158

a. Dependent Variable: NETMIGLOG