

IIASA and the European Commission's Joint Research Centre (EC-JRC) have launched a new research partnership to provide science-based knowledge on migration and demography to support EU policy.

In the framework of the European Commission's Knowledge Centre for Migration and Demography, the Centre of Expertise on Population and Migration was created in response to a need for strengthening demographic expertise with the European Commission with a specific focus on implications of migration.

The Centre aims to bring new understanding to how migration could impact the future EU economy and society, and what policies could lead to the most positive outcomes.

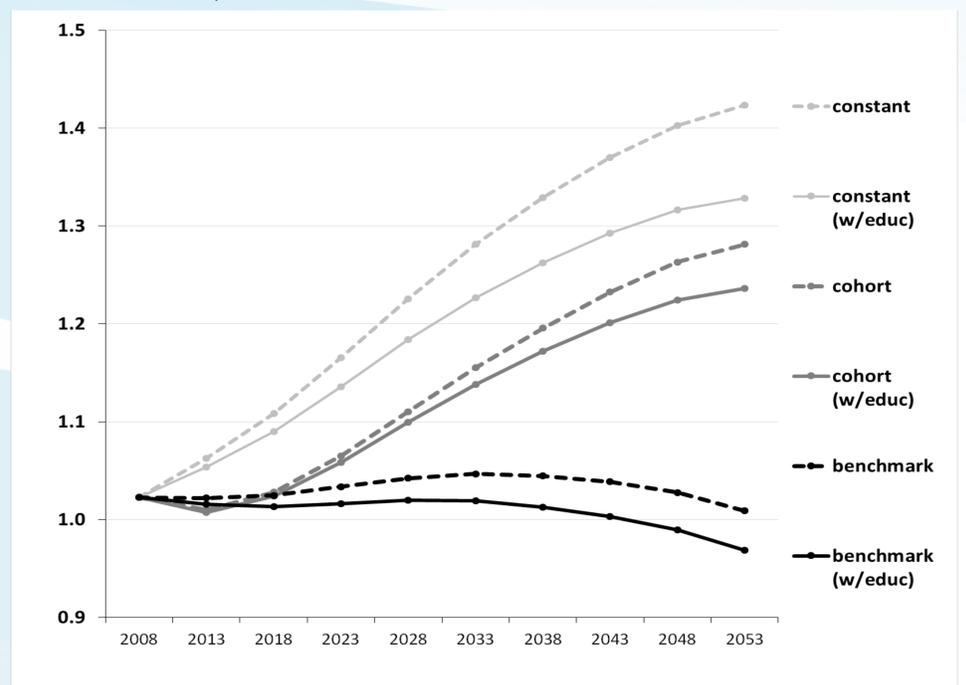
The basic rationale for the creation of the new Centre is that the EU member states must deal not only with short-term challenges in the context of the refugee crisis but also have to understand the longer term implications in the context of an aging population.

Against this background, the Centre will conduct research on the likely longer-term impact of alternative migration scenarios on the changing structure of Europe's population by not only considering age and sex but also education and labor force participation. This information is necessary to inform EU migration policy.

For selected EU countries it will also conduct scenarios according to place of birth, religion, language use, and other social dimensions. The Centre will also produce alternative scenarios for future conditions in potential sending countries in Africa and Western Asia that may result in out-migration pressures.

The new research partnership is co-headed by IIASA World Population Program Director Wolfgang Lutz, also the founding director of the Wittgenstein Centre, and by Delilah Al-Khudhairi, director of Policy Support Coordination at the JRC. The Centre of Expertise on Population and Migration is initially funded for three years. The research staff will include five postdoctoral fellows who will work at IIASA, and five demography experts stationed at JRC-Ispra.

Economic Dependency Ratio for EU-28, different scenarios



Economic Dependency Ratio = people not in the labor force/people in the labor force. Source: Loichinger, E. (2015). Labor Force Projections up to 2053 for 26 EU countries by Age, Sex, and Highest Level of Educational Attainment. Demographic Research, 32(15), p. 443-486.

Launch event in Brussels, 20 June 2016



(from left to right) Klaus Rudischhauser, EC; Mariana Kotzeva, EC; Reiner Munz, EPSC; Alessandra Zampieri, EC; Wolfgang Lutz, IIASA; Kristalina Georgieva, EC; Vladimir Šucha, EC; Tibor Navracsics, EC; Delilah Al Khudhairi Director, EC; Christos Stylianides, EC; Anne Goujon, IIASA; Pavel Kabat, IIASA.