

Wp3: Fieldwork with Australians and Romanians in London

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Objectives & research questions

- *To compare the profile & mobility patterns of migrants who engage in temporary work, in and out of targeted programs with focus on return and repeated participation*
1. Is temporary migration best understood in terms of time, rights or integration? In what ways is temporarility experienced & manifested? What distinguishes a temporary migrant from a permanent migrant?
 2. Is there such a thing a temporary integration? If so how is this achieved & expressed?
 3. To what extent and in what ways do temporary migrants connect with the homeland?
 4. What migration trajectories do these individuals follow, and do previous migration influence the decision for future motilities?
 5. What material, economic, social and cultural factors drive this type of migration? Is this migration punctuated by push or pull factors?

Questions: themes & concepts



Australians

- Labour market activity
- On the nexus between labor migrants and tourists
- Do Australians in the UK constitute a diaspora?
- How are cultural reproductions from the homeland exercised and mobilised by temporary migrants?
- Rite of passage
- Networks
- London: the hyper global city

Romanians

Research design

1. Face-to-face survey with all 180 migrants.
 - Migration trajectories;
 - Reasons for migrating;
 - plans for future migrations & settlement;
 - Returns;
 - Educational background & work experience;
 - Labour market experience in host country (including recruitment, contract & rights);
 - Housing;
 - Integration & political socialization;
 - Social relations & networks;
 - Relations with homeland
2. Semi-structured interviews with approximately 25 Romanians; 25 Australians

Sample & recruitment



- 180 migrants living in London in total
- 80 Romanians in low/mid skilled occupations
 - 20 in food processing
 - 20 in social care/health
 - 20 in construction
 - 10 in hospitality sector
 - 10 in other sectors
- 100 Australians on the YMS
- Representative: arrival date; sectors; gender; transitions, origin state
- Snowball sampling

Preliminary findings: Australians

It was not for work, and it wasn't really for a holiday. It's actually sort of linked to what I said before personal growth (Female 24)

- Migration driven more by a rite of passage, tourism & experience than economic reasons.
- Majority working in high skilled jobs, overwhelmingly in teaching sector. Very few had problems getting a job.
- Many have had problems finding housing.

'I mean coming here feels like a big holiday because it's not quite settled both in terms of the visa aspect but also more so I suppose getting to know people and building a community. Urm because finding local friends here can be tricky based on coming over and trying to find different peer groups, so yeah that can be a barrier (Female 29)

Preliminary findings: Australians

J: I feel British. I reckon after 18 months here....I realised 2 or 3 months ago, I jumped off Oxford Street and yelled at a tourist to get out of the way. And I was like wow

E: I feel like I fit in here, but I feel like everyone here is Australian instead of me coming here and feeling English.

J: I've started saying "innit"

E: I'm a teacher so I start every sentence with 'basically'

E: I feel like I have more in common with English than say South Africans. When I think of Commonwealth I think of easier immigration between countries, and similar attitudes and values. It sounds white to me. I feel more comfortable and at home and at ease in countries that under Commonwealth. Similar governments means similar ways of life's, similar laws, similar transport. I feel more comfortable here than I did in Canada, I was the only Australian. (Male 24; Female 29).

I don't know if I feel like I belong, I feel part of it yes, but not that sense of belonging in terms of a sense of permanency or grounding not necessarily. I suppose belonging would feel quite integrated but it feels like a temporary attachment. So it's welcoming but not a permanent welcoming, it's more like you're attending a house party and at some point you're going to leave (Male 26)

Preliminary findings: Romanians



Issues & next steps

- Recruiting sample: Australians don't congregate in specific spaces.
- Profiles: difficulty finding migrants who have transited from one status to another
- Deliverable D3.4 due Jan 2017 *likely need extension; deliverable D3.5 Nov 2018.