

READER for the Teaching Module

Migration and Immigration Challenges in the Visegrad Region

Overview

This document or 'reader' should be considered as preparation for the teaching module. Here you will find background information that will help you get ready. The format of the module is provided and full bibliography of the books that are present in CC library. The module demands that you write an essay to a high standard on a question set by the module leader. The essay must show evidence of reading. Throughout this document you will find tips, comments and ideas and questions for you to consider and follow.

To begin with, it is very important for you to get to grips with core words and terminology to do with the subject! So, look at the following list and ensure that you understand what they mean: **migration; immigration; asylum; borders; visas, mobility; Roma; economic migration; refugee; expulsion; Cold War; USSR; passports; regional integration; United Nations; Three-Seas Initiative.**

Now, the Visegrad Group (also known as the "Visegrad Four" or simply "V4") is a cultural and political alliance or regional grouping of four Central European countries that are also members of the EU and NATO:

- Czech Republic
- Hungary
- Poland
- Slovakia



The purpose of the V4 focuses mainly on stimulating military, cultural, economic and scientific advances and development based on parallel histories, similar geographies and common interests. The V4 often, but not always, act as a ‘block’ within the European Union, especially on foreign policy issues, such as Russia, and social issues, such as migration. **Tip: Do a little bit of research on the background of the V4 and consider what European policy areas are important to all states. You should also be able to distinguish the Visegrad group from other regional groupings and organisations, such as the EU, Eurasian Economic Union or the Eastern Partnership.**

The Group was established on 15th February 1991. The main focus of the group in the early days was to overcome ‘artificial dividing lines in Europe’ through the development of mutual support and cooperation – to be pursued at diplomatic, business and societal levels. All the V4 countries aspired to become members of NATO and the European Union. This was achieved in 1999 and 2004 respectively. ‘Re-joining Europe’, via NATO and the EU was considered as one of the main achievements of the V4. **Something to consider: Why did the Visegrad states seek to become NATO and EU members? Something else to consider: Why are Bulgaria and Romania not in the V4? Should they join?**

Summary: Main factors that motivated the formation of the group:

1. The need for cooperation between, at the time, new and fragile democratic states that wanted to match up with the rest of Europe. V4 states had been part of the USSR-led block. After 1989 their main foreign policy objectives were to 'return to Europe', gain their full sovereignty, democratise and establish liberal economies in line with the West.
2. By creating the V4 group, the member states saw that they could act in unison and therefore have a stronger voice vis a vis the EU and NATO. Expertise and knowledge could also be shared amongst the V4 to help with their post-1989 transitions.
3. The EU itself had an interest in regional groupings like the V4. Regional integration, like the Visegrad Group helps to build stability and security and links countries economies together. [Find out what CEFTA was and think about its role in the 1990s. Also, look at the different paths taken by the V4 states towards EU membership, what similarities and differences can be observed?](#)

Recap': Common historical and geographical attributes of the V4 member states:

- Ex-members of the Soviet-led communist bloc in Central Europe, command economies;
- European identity – the people in V4 states consider themselves to be European;
- Geographically small – Poland is by far the biggest state;
- Economically fragile after 1989 – all states played 'catch-up' after the end of communism, but V4 states took slightly different paths in some ways.

Main Achievements:

- One of the biggest achievements of the V4 group is considered to be the fact that the alliance is not only a political platform, but also economic and cultural one. [Think about why the V4 has endured.](#)
- All the member states joined the EU and either are or will also join the Eurozone.
- All V4 states became NATO members. [Learn what is involved in the path to become a NATO member?](#)
- Eliminating the artificial boundaries between the states and rest of European countries. [Question: Was the 'Return to Europe'?](#)

- V4, by acting together, were able to bring a 'Central European' voice to the EU and other international contexts.

To think about: there is much that unites the V4 states, but also significant factors that divide them. Consult some of the reading material to see what the areas of unity and discord are. Consider issues to do with energy, religion, migration, agriculture and Russia. Question: do you think that V4 cooperation is as important nowadays as it was in the 1990's?

For more about the V4 states: <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ez.html>

SECTION TWO

This teaching module is sponsored by the International Visegrad Fund (IVF), which amongst other activities sponsors cooperation amongst Universities. The focus of the module is on the migration and immigration challenges concerning the V4 group. The main issues covered in this module relate to (a) the effects of recent and new trends that emerged after 2004 on migration and immigration in the region (b) demographic developments that shape populations and socio-economic realities in V4 states (c) the specific situations and prospects of the Roma people in the Visegrad area (d) broader regional, European and global trends and factors in the spheres of immigration and migration.

To help you to get more familiar with the V4 states you should consult the following websites. *As you scroll through, make sure you find out the names of current leaders and the main political parties so that you are up to date.*

- <http://www.visegradgroup.eu>: Official Visegrad Four website
- <https://www.vlada.cz/en/>: The official website of the Czech government
- <http://www.kormany.hu/en>: The official website of the Hungarian government
- <https://www.premier.gov.pl> The official website of the Chancellery of the Polish Prime Minister
- <http://www.vlada.gov.sk/government-of-the-slovak-republic/>: The official website of the Slovak government

Equally, you need to get acquainted with the main international organisations that touch on migration and immigration issues. The following list will give you a start in this direction. *As you look at these websites think about what kind of information you find, try to focus on identifying 'primary data', this could be, for example figures on*

numbers of migrants, official declarations of organisations, speeches and so on. Use these sites to get definitions of key terms and concepts too.

- **United Nations migration related websites:**
<http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/migration/index.shtml>,
<https://refugeesmigrants.un.org>
- **International Organisation for Migration:**
<https://www.iom.int>
- **European Union related websites :**
<http://europa.eu>, <https://euobserver.com/static/about>,
<http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/>, <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/at-your-service/en>, http://ec.europa.eu/commission/index_en,
<http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/council-eu/presidency-council-eu/>,
<http://curia.europa.eu>, https://europa.eu/european-union/law_en,
https://ec.europa.eu/info/about-european-commission/service-standards-and-principles/transparency_en, <https://www.buinessurope.eu/mission-and-priorities>
<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/>
- **OSCE related websites :**
<https://www.osce.org/about>, <http://hatecrime.osce.org>,
<https://www.oscepa.org/members/member-countries>
- **Think Tanks and Research Institutes that do work on migration / immigration:**
 Russell Sage Foundation: <http://www.russellsage.org/research/immigration>
 The Brookings Institution: <https://www.brookings.edu/about-us/>
 Immigration Research and Information: <http://www.immigrationresearch-info.org>
 Migration Policy Institute: <https://www.migrationpolicy.org/about/mission>
 The Center for Comparative Studies: <http://ccis.ucsd.edu>
 French Institute of International Relations,
<https://www.ifri.org/en/recherche/thematiques-transversales/migrations-citoyennetes>
 Friends of Europe: <https://www.friendsofeurope.org/topic/6715>

SECTION THREE

Migration and Immigration Challenges in the Visegrad Region¹

Lectures and Classes by Aniko Bernat (Hungary), Kerry Longhurst (Poland) and Zsolt Gál (Slovakia)

This module is all about migration and immigration in the context of the states and societies that make up the Visegrad area (V4). The module will draw attention to the specificities of the region and the particular challenges, trends and opportunities linked with migration / immigration. The module will also prompt students to think about 'regional' approaches to migration / immigration, the added value of the 'Visegrad Four' in this domain, as well as EU policies and initiatives.

Students will gain knowledge and understanding of the various types and definitions of migration and learn how to classify different categories and waves of migrants. The challenges of immigration for individuals and their new host country and society will be addressed, with students being encouraged to think about issues to do with tension, assimilation and integration, in terms of both opportunity and challenges. Questions of ethnicity and diasporas will provide a further focal point, with such issues considered through prisms of the Roma issue and that of citizenship and belonging. The case of EU enlargement will be taken up as a means to get students thinking about questions to do with labour mobility and economic migration from Central Europe into Western Europe. The module will also consider issues to do with visas and borders in the context of the EU's relations with its Eastern neighbours, such as Ukraine and Moldova – particularly from a V4 perspective.

The module will be taught in an intensive block via a variety of teaching methods, the course does not assume prior knowledge of the subject area. [The course is assessed by an essay of 4000 words.](#) Students should take [one](#) of the following titles and submit their essay electronically to the studies in English office. Students should be very careful about plagiarism; know what it is and how to avoid it. [Plagiarism is very serious, it is basically cheating and will not be tolerated.](#) The 4000 words must include a bibliography of sources that you have consulted; these can/should include primary sources and secondary sources. Your essay will be much better if you use a mix of sources and not just websites – such as those listed by the lecturers. Collegium Civitas has received money from the International Visegrad Fund for a large number of books on topics covered in the module. You are strongly encouraged to consult them. DO NOT forget to use footnotes to reference the sources you consult. This is extremely important as it will help you avoid plagiarism. Always reference, by way of a footnote, if you use a quote or a concept or idea of someone else's'. Better to have a

¹ This teaching module is funded by the International Visegrad Fund (IVF)

lot of footnotes, then too few. Essays submitted without references, footnotes and a bibliography will fail.

ESSAY TITLES:

1. What are the main migratory trends and changes at global, at EU and at V4 levels?
2. What are the main trends and characteristics of the politics (democracy, institutions) and public spheres (people's attitudes and public discourse) of the Visegrad Countries in general and with regards to migration?
3. How would you describe the social situation of the Roma minority in the Visegrad countries? Please consider key aspects, such as education, employment, housing, health status and discrimination but also highlight any other aspects you find relevant.
4. What are the most important factors influencing the fiscal balance of immigration in the host countries? How can migration and integration policies contribute to a (more) positive fiscal balance?
5. Can you examine the main differences between the (likely) economic and fiscal effects of the intra-EU migration flows after the 2004 Eastern enlargement of the EU from the new Member States to the old ones and the inflow of asylum seekers during the 2014-2016 migration crisis.

OVERVIEW OF TOPICS COVERED

APPROACHING MIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION (Aniko Bernat)

These sessions will focus more on the social and less focuses on the legal aspects of the given topic, with a strong practical aspect and some theoretical and methodological elements. Discussions and video screening throughout the course, referring to actual cases, and tasks in order to learn how to understand statistics and gathering data with various research tools.

(a) Migration theories and current trends at a global, European and V4 level, xenophobia and discrimination

Lectures and discussions will cover the following topics: Basic concepts and theories of migration; the main trends of migration at global, EU, V4 levels, with a focus on Hungary: main processes, statistics, relevant groups, possible reasons; refugees and asylum seekers, xenophobia, discrimination and as a counter-balance: migrant solidarity movement in a number of EU countries.

Useful sources:

- *Second European Union Minorities and Discrimination Survey (EU-MIDIS II) – Main results. European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights. 2017. <http://fra.europa.eu/en/publication/2017/eumidis-ii-main-results>*
- *Second European Union Minorities and Discrimination Survey (EU-MIDIS II) Muslims – Selected findings. European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights. 2017.*

<http://fra.europa.eu/en/publication/2017/eumidis-ii-muslims-selected-findings>

- *Central Europe's Faceless Strangers: The rise of xenophobia in the region.* Bulcsú Hunyadi, Csaba Molnár. 2017 *Political Capital – Freedom House*, 2017. <https://freedomhouse.org/report/special-reports/central-europe-s-faceless-strangers-rise-xenophobia-region#.WtoB3X--nX4>
- *The Social Aspects of the 2015 Migration Crisis in Hungary.* Simonovits, B., Bernát, A. (ed) (2016). TARKI Social Research Institute, Budapest. 2016
http://www.tarki.hu/hu/news/2016/kitekint/20160330_refugees.pdf

(b) *The social situation of the Roma in Eastern Europe and in the V4 countries:* concepts and current trends in the social integration and social life of the Roma, based on current statistics and studies. Topics covered are: basic socio-demography, education, employment, housing, health condition, migration, discrimination, anti-gypsyism.

Useful sources:

- *Second European Union Minorities and Discrimination Survey (EU-MIDIS II) Roma – Selected findings.* European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights. 2017
<http://fra.europa.eu/en/publication/2016/eumidis-ii-roma-selected-findings>
- *A persisting concern: anti-Gypsyism as a barrier to Roma inclusion.* European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights. 2018.
<http://fra.europa.eu/en/publication/2018/roma-inclusion>
- *Antigypsyism and Antisemitism in Hungary.* Political Capital, 2018
http://www.politicalcapital.hu/pc-admin/source/documents/EVZ_Antigypsyism%20Antisemitism_final%20report_%20summary_180228.pdf

(c) *Implications for migration / immigration issues in the V4 and Political situation in Hungary: 'illiberal democracy', populism*

Useful sources:

- *The Year of Rearrangement. The Populist Right and the Far-Right in Contemporary Hungary.* Attila Juhász (ed.) Political Capital, Budapest, 2018.
http://www.politicalcapital.hu/pc-admin/source/documents/Atrendezodes%20Eve_ENG_oldalpar.pdf

ECONOMIC EFFECTS AND FISCAL BALANCE OF MIGRATION

(Gal Zsolt)

(a) Aging related fiscal burdens in developed countries, main factors influencing the fiscal balance, differences between developed countries in the fiscal outcomes of immigration.

Useful sources:

OECD (2013): *The fiscal impact of immigration in OECD countries*. In: *International Migration Outlook 2013*. OECD Publishing

Bodvarsson, Ö. B. – Van den Berg, H. (2009): *The Economics of Immigration, Theory and Policy*. Springer-Verlag, Berlin-Heidelberg.

Rowthorn, R. (2008): *The fiscal impact of immigration on the advanced economies*. Oxford Review of Economic Policy 24 (3): 560-580

House of Lords – Select Committee on Economic Affairs (2008): *The Economic Impact of Immigration*. House of Lords, London

Blanchflower, D. G. – Saleheen, J. – Shadforth, Ch. (2007): *The Impact of the Recent Migration from Eastern Europe on the UK Economy*. Bank of England, London.

Sriskandarajah, D. – Cooley, L. – Reed, H. (2005): *Paying their way: the fiscal contribution of immigrants in the UK*. Institute for Public Policy Research, London.

(b) Post-enlargement migration flows from New Member States: Slovakia in a comparative perspective – the characteristics of the migration flows from CEE countries to Western Europe. Main factors influencing the intensity, patterns and trends of migration. V4 countries – from emigration to immigration states?

Useful sources:

Elsner, B. – Zimmermann, K. F. (2013): *10 Years After: EU Enlargement, Closed Borders, and Migration to Germany*. IZA, Bonn.

European Integration Consortium (2009): *Labour mobility within the EU in the context of enlargement and the functioning of the transitional arrangements*. Nuremberg.

Kahanec, M. – Zimmermann K. F. (2009): *Migration in an enlarged EU: A challenging solution?* European Economy, Economic Papers 363, European Commission, Directorate-General for Economic and Financial Affairs, Brussels.

Pollard, N. – Latorre, M. – Sriskandarajah, D. (2008): *Floodgates or turnstiles? Post-EU enlargement migration flows to (and from) the UK*. Institute for Public Policy Research, London.

Commission of the European Communities (2008): *The impact of free movement of workers in the context of EU enlargement*. Brussels.

Blanchflower, D. G. – Saleheen, J. – Shadforth, Ch. (2007): *The Impact of the Recent Migration from Eastern Europe on the UK Economy*. Bank of England, London.

Dustmann, Ch. – Frattini, T. – Halls, C. (2009): *Assessing the Fiscal Costs and Benefits of A8 Migration to the UK*. CReAM Discussion Paper No 18/09. Centre for Research and Analysis of Migration, Department of Economics, University College London.

(c) *The refugee crisis and its aftermath*. The refugee/migration crisis of 2014-2016 as part of the multiple, overlapping and mutually reinforcing crises of the European Union. The failure of EU and national asylum/immigration systems during the crisis. The political and fiscal consequences. Reactions and political consequences in V4 countries.

Useful sources:

- European Commission 2016 “An Economic Take on the Refugee Crisis. A Macroeconomic Assessment for the EU”, European Economy Institutional Paper 033, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg.
- IMF 2016 “The Refugee Surge in Europe: Economic Challenges”, IMF Staff Discussion Notes SDN/16/02, International Monetary Fund.
- Konle-Seidl, R. and Bolits, G. 2016 “Labour Market Integration of Refugees: Strategies and good practices”, study for the Employment and Social Affairs Committee, European Parliament.
- Nannestad, P. 2007 “Immigration and welfare states: A survey of 15 years of research”, European Journal of Political Economy 23: 512–532.
- OECD 2017 “Finding their Way. Labour Market Integration of Refugees in Germany”, International Migration Division, Directorate for Employment, Labour and Social Affairs, OECD.

The final part of the module will involve Dr Longhurst providing a recap’ of the module. She will also spend time talking about and encouraging discussion amongst students on such topics as:

- (a) The future of the V4. Here we will consider what the value of the V4 is or could be in the coming years; whether the Visegrad group could be expanded and whether there are enough common interests amongst Central European states to keep regional cooperation going.
- (b) Developments in Eastern Europe. Here we will look at the role of V4 states towards such states Ukraine, Moldova and Georgia in the area of visas and mobility of people. We will look at the implementation of visa-free regimes and re-admission agreements in particular.

SECTION FOUR

The following is a list of books that are in CC library. The books were purchased with the generous funding of the International Visegrad Fund.

- *Citizenship: A Very Short Introduction (Very Short Introductions)*
25 Sep 2008 by Richard Bellamy
- *The Boundaries of EU Enlargement: Finding a Place for Neighbours (Studies in Central and Eastern Europe)*
1 Feb 2008 by Joan DeBardeleben

- *Borders: A Very Short Introduction (Very Short Introductions)*
27 Sep 2012 by Alexander C. Diener, Joshua Hagen
- *EU Enlargement and Socialization (Routledge Advances in European Politics)*
21 Jan 2016 by Stefan Engert
- *Inclusion and Exclusion in Europe: Migration, Work and Employment Perspectives (Studies in European Political Science)*
15 Mar 2018 by Olena Fedjuk and Paul Stewart
- *The Oxford Handbook of Refugee and Forced Migration Studies (Oxford Handbooks in Politics & International Relations)*
1 Jun 2016 by Elena Fiddian-Qasmiyeh and Gil Loescher
- *The Politics of Good Neighbourhood: State, civil society and the enhancement of cultural capital in East Central Europe (Border Regions Series)*
12 Jun 2018 by Bela Filep
- *The Visegrad states on the EU's Eastern frontier: Visa policies of the V4 vis-à-vis the Eastern neighbours – a challenge for the regional co-operation*
10 May 2011 by Ivana Filipova
- *The Borders of Europe: Autonomy of Migration, Tactics of Bordering*
15 Sep 2017 by Nicholas De Genova
- *Central Europe: Enemies, Neighbors, Friends*
10 Feb 2010 by Lonnie R. Johnson
- *Topographies of Borderland Schengen: Documental Images of Undocumented Migration in European Borderlands*
26 Jun 2018 by Jan Kühnemund
- *Continent by Default: The European Union and the Demise of Regional Order*
15 Jan 2018 by Anne Marie Le Gloannec
- *Social Failures of EU Enlargement: A Case of Workers Voting with their Feet*
18 Jul 2016 by Guglielmo Meardi
- *EU Induced Institutional Change in Post-Soviet Space: Promoting Reforms in Moldova and Ukraine (Routledge Studies in European Foreign Policy)*
31 Jul 2018 by Ryhor Nizhnikau
- *Mapping the Invisible: EU-Roma Gypsies*
1 Mar 2010 by Lucy Orta
- *Will further EU enlargement cause a crisis in the EU? An analysis*

5 Dec 2016 by Julian Rudolf

- *Between Mobility and Migration: The Multi-Level Governance of Intra-European Movement (IMISCOE Research Series)*
11 Jul 2018 by Peter Scholten and Mark van Ostaijen
- *Another Darkness, Another Dawn: A History of Gypsies, Roma and Travellers*
1 Feb 2014 by Becky Taylor
- *Oxford Handbook of the Politics of International Migration (Oxford Handbooks)*
24 May 2018 by Daniel J. Tichenor and Marc R. Rosenblum
- *'The Politics' and 'The Political' of the Eastern Partnership Initiative: Reshaping the Agenda*
6 Mar 2018 by Eske Van Gils and Igor Merheim-Eyre
- *Europe's Border Crisis: Biopolitical Security and Beyond*
5 Nov 2017 by Nick Vaughan-Williams
- *EU Enlargement, Region Building and Shifting Borders of Inclusion and Exclusion (Border Regions Series)*
28 Nov 2006 by James Wesley Scott
- *The Future of Freedom: Illiberal Democracy at Home and Abroad*
16 Nov 2007 by Fareed Zakaria