

Workshop on the Estimation of International Migration in Europe: Issues, Models, and Assessment
Southampton, United Kingdom, 28-30 September 2005

EVOLUTION OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION STATISTICS IN SELECTED CENTRAL EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

COLLECTION METHODS, CONCEPTS AND INTERNATIONAL COMPARABILITY

based mainly on information collected in the THESIM project
(Towards Harmonised European Statistics on International Migration)
funded by the European Commission's DG Research under the FP6 Programme
co-ordinated by Michel Poulain from the Université Catholique de Louvain

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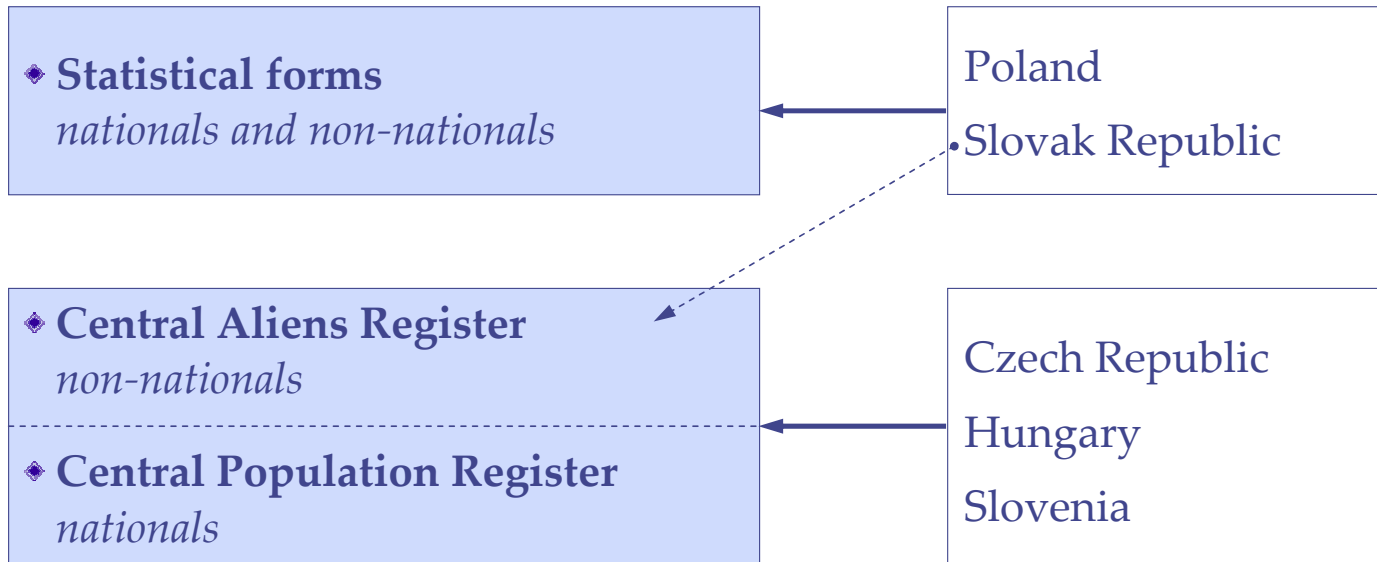
PLAN OF THE PRESENTATION

Countries considered:

*the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland,
the Slovak Republic and Slovenia*

- ◆ Data sources used to produce statistics on international migration flows
- ◆ Availability of various tabulations of international migration flows
- ◆ The concept of international migration underlying official flow statistics
- ◆ International comparability of statistics on international migration flows
 - the impact of application of different definitions on the level of reported migration flows (Czech Republic)
- ◆ Conclusions

SOURCES OF DATA ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION FLOWS



SOURCES OF DATA ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION FLOWS

Why is
Central Population Register
not used for both
nationals and non-nationals?

- ◆ the lack or poor quality of core characteristics of international migrants in the central population registers for both nationals and non-nationals (**Poland, the Slovak Republic**)
- ◆ the limited information on international migration of foreigners in the central population register (limited coverage in **Hungary** and not completed development of central population register in the **Czech Republic and Slovenia**)

AVAILABILITY OF STATISTICS ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

Country	Total <i>by age and sex</i>	By citizenship	By country of birth	By country of previous/next residence
Czech Republic	+	+	[-]	+
Hungary	+	+	+	-
Poland	+	[-]	-	+
Slovak Republic	+	+	n:[-] f:+	+
Slovenia	+	+	[-]	n:+ f:-

+ available

- not available

n: information referring to nationals

f: information referring to non-nationals

[] the responsible authority or data supplier has indicated that these data may be available at some point in the future

THE CONCEPT OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

duration of stay criterion

◆ POLAND

	Immigration	Emigration
Nationals	<i>permanent</i> <i>infinite duration of stay</i>	
Foreigners		

◆ The crucial problems:

- ◆ statistics on permanent migration cover only a minor part of actual international migration flows (data on temporary migration are collected, but their quality is highly questionable)
- ◆ registration of immigration of foreigners is delayed by an unspecified number of years

THE CONCEPT OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

duration of stay criterion

◆ THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC

	Immigration	Emigration
Nationals	<i>permanent</i> <i>infinite duration of stay</i>	
Foreigners		
Foreigners	<i>issue of residence permits to foreigners present in the country</i>	<i>expiry of residence permits</i>

◆ The crucial problems:

- ◆ statistics on permanent migration cover only a minor part of actual international migration flows (data on temporary migration are collected, but their quality is highly questionable)
- ◆ registration of immigration of foreigners is delayed by an unspecified number of years

THE CONCEPT OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

duration of stay criterion

◆ HUNGARY

		Immigration	Emigration
Nationals		<i>3 months</i>	
Foreigners	EEA	<i>3 months</i>	<i>permanent</i>
	Non-EEA	<i>issue of the first residence permits (usually for 1 year) foreigners are present in the country</i>	<i>expiry of residence permits unknown place of residence</i>

Refugees are not included

◆ The crucial problems:

- ◆ inconsistency between data on immigration and emigration for foreigners
- ◆ inconsistency between data for nationals and non-nationals

THE CONCEPT OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

duration of stay criterion

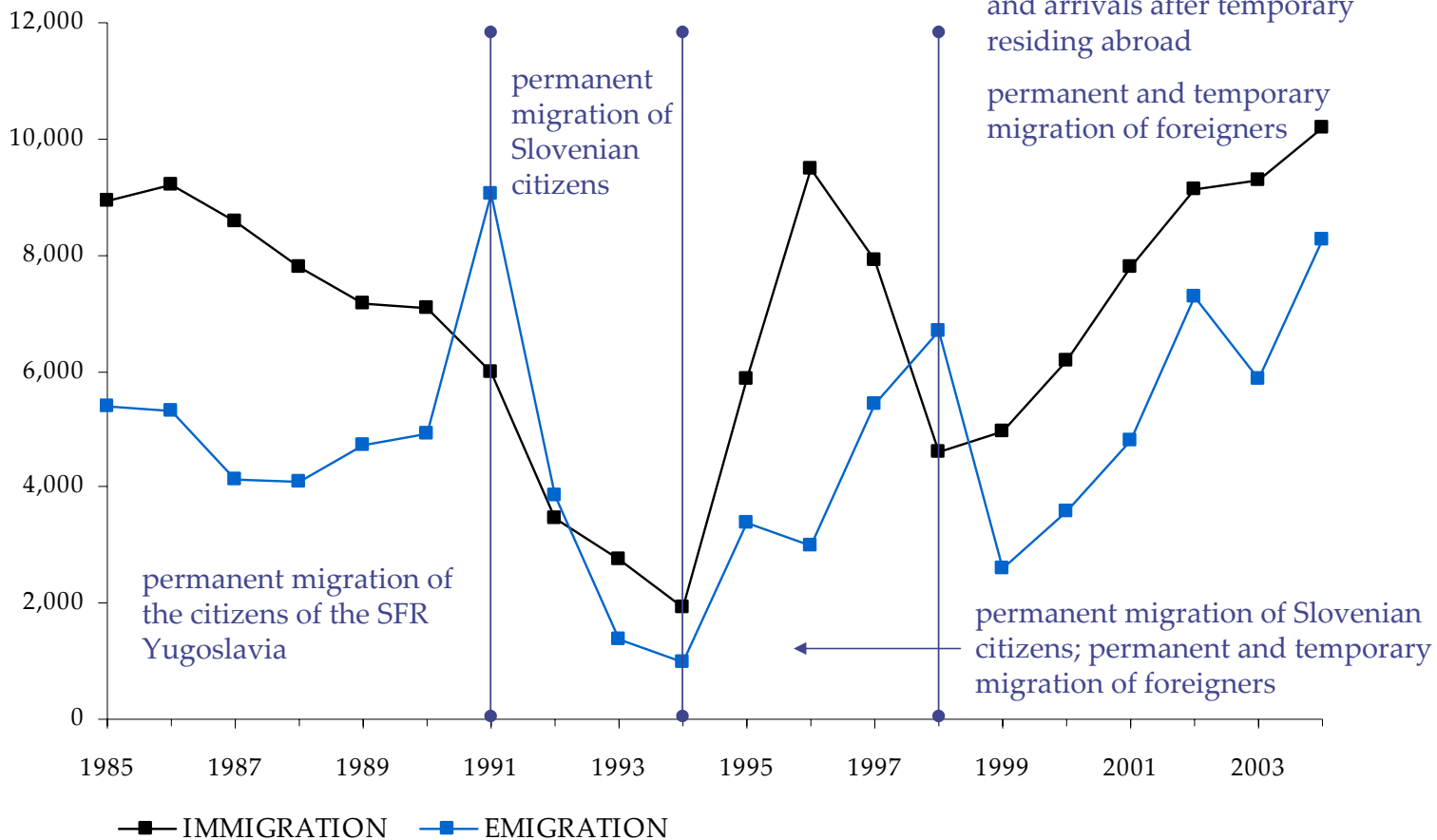
◆ SLOVENIA

	Immigration	Emigration
Nationals	<i>permanent</i> <i>2 months</i> <i>provided a person has a permanent place of residence in the country</i>	<i>3 months</i>
Foreigners	<i>3 months</i>	<i>permanent</i> <i>expiry of residence permits</i>

- ◆ **The crucial problems:**
- ◆ inconsistency between data on immigration and emigration
- ◆ inconsistency between data for nationals and non-nationals
- ◆ temporary immigration of Slovenian citizens with permanent residence abroad is not covered
- ◆ temporary emigration of foreigners with permanent residence in Slovenia is not covered

INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

Slovenia



Source: Statistical Yearbook of the Republic of Slovenia (various years)

THE CONCEPT OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

duration of stay criterion

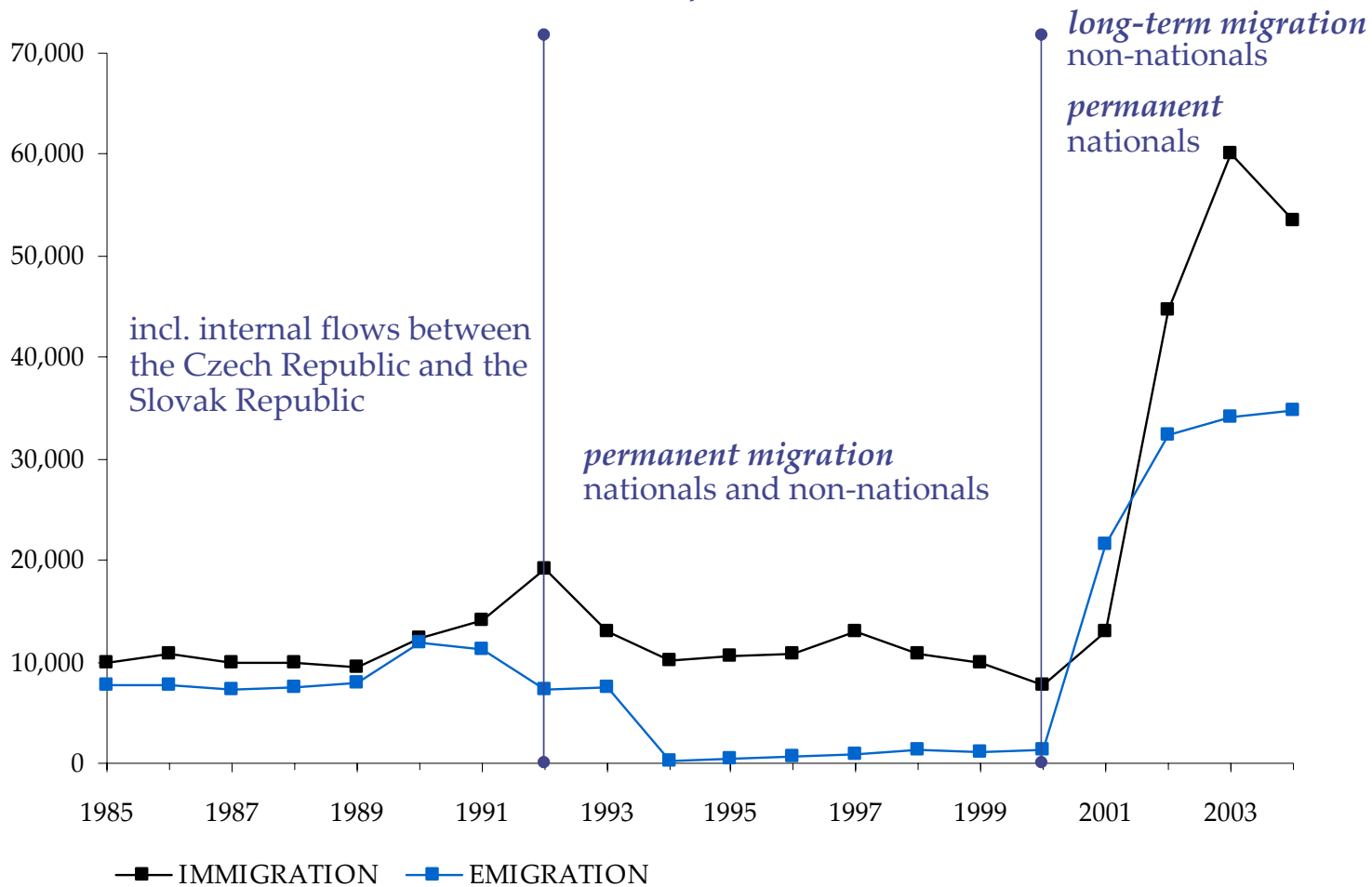
◆ THE CZECH REPUBLIC

		Immigration	Emigration
Nationals		<i>permanent</i>	
Foreigners	EEA	<i>3 months</i>	<i>permanent expiry of residence permits</i>
	Non-EEA	<i>1 year actual duration</i>	
	Refugees	<i>permanent</i>	

- ◆ **The crucial problems:**
- ◆ inconsistency between data on immigration and emigration for foreigners
- ◆ inconsistency between data for nationals and non-nationals
- ◆ registration of immigration of foreigners is delayed by one year (?)

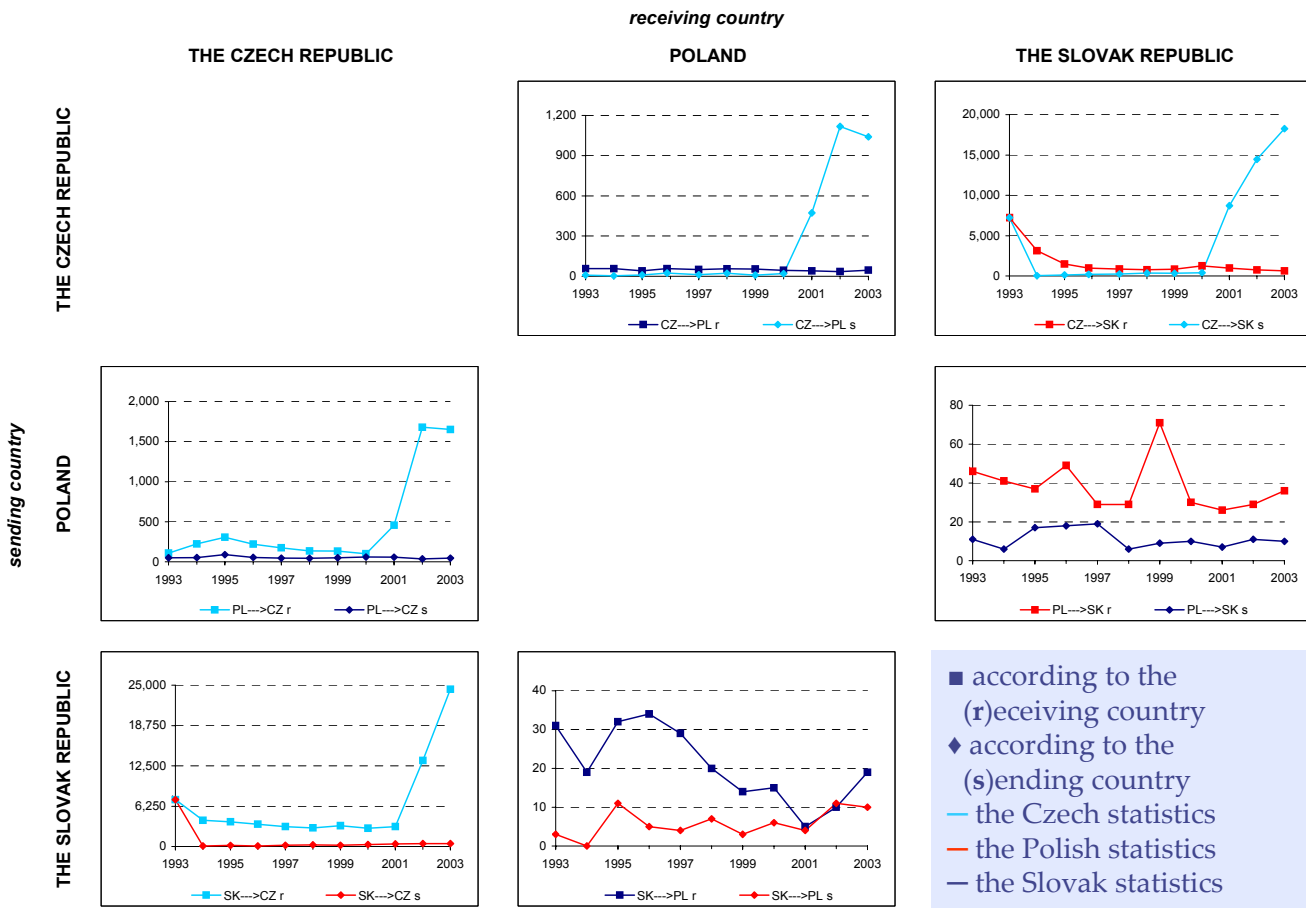
INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION FLOWS

Czech Republic



Source: Statistical Yearbook of the Czech Republic (various years)

INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION FLOWS BETWEEN THE CZECH REPUBLIC, POLAND AND THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC



THE CONCEPT OF THE CHANGE OF PERMANENT PLACE OF RESIDENCE

- ◆ permanent migration accounts for a minor part of the long-term migration
- ◆ permanent emigration is underestimated - if both origin and destination countries use the concept of change of permanent place of residence the figures for migration flows according to a receiving country are higher than according to a sending country

QUALITY OF IMMIGRATION STATISTICS IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

r/s ratio, where r and s are the flows reported by receiving and sending country respectively

Country of origin	Time criterion in definition of emigration	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Germany	none	0.10	0.10	0.12	0.11	0.10	0.09	0.07	0.06	0.05	0.10	0.14
Austria	3 months	:	:	:	0.13	0.10	0.09	0.09	0.09	0.08	0.54	0.41
Denmark	6 months	0.16	0.11	0.09	0.12	0.09	0.11	0.08	0.14	0.06	0.36	0.36
Netherlands	8 out of 12 months	0.29	0.42	0.26	0.27	0.30	0.21	0.12	0.17	0.34	1.08	1.42
Finland	1 year	0.00	0.65	1.80	0.21	0.29	0.00	0.15	0.08	0.31	1.13	1.62
Sweden	1 year	1.17	1.32	0.80	1.23	1.08	0.40	0.42	0.43	0.64	1.03	1.08
Poland	permanent	2.16	4.21	3.45	4.02	3.72	3.16	2.66	1.73	8.00	44.18	35.93
Slovakia	permanent	1.00	42.91	21.36	38.76	14.57	11.50	15.55	9.12	7.73	29.68	54.43

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[0.1; 0.3)

[0.3; 1)

≥ 1

QUALITY OF EMIGRATION STATISTICS IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

s/r ratio, where s and r are the flows reported by sending and receiving country respectively

Country of destination	Time criterion in definition of immigration	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Germany	none	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.03	0.06	0.10	0.10
Austria	3 months	:	:	:	0.04	0.04	0.09	0.05	0.06	0.14	0.35	0.26
Denmark	none/3 months/ 6 months	0.02	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.05	0.03	0.02	0.01	0.09	0.28	0.20
Netherlands	4 out of 6 months	0.01	0.03	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.19	0.40	0.45
Finland	none/1 year	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.02	0.48	0.83	1.21
Sweden	1 year	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.06	0.05	0.03	0.05	0.03	0.22	0.38	0.35
Poland	permanent	0.14	0.05	0.25	0.41	0.22	0.40	0.15	0.43	11.83	32.85	22.61
Slovakia	permanent	1.00	0.02	0.09	0.21	0.30	0.46	0.39	0.33	8.80	19.30	28.10

[0; 0.1)

[0.1; 0.3)

[0.3; 1)

≥ 1

.../... information referring to immigration of nationals / non-nationals

.../.../... information referring to immigration of nationals / other EU citizens / non-EU citizens

CONCLUSIONS

- ◆ statistical data do not comply with the United Nations recommendations on statistics of international migration
- ◆ the concept of change of permanent place of residence applied to statistics on international migration is completely outdated and does not reflect the actual flows
- ◆ statistics on international migration flows are underestimated, because rules regarding mandatory registration are a dead letter in the Central European countries