



# **Statistics on Migration, Integration and Discrimination in Europe**


## **PROMINSTAT Final Report**

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Research in the Field of Migration  
and Integration in Europe  
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## Final Project Report

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## Summary

PROMINSTAT responds to the need for more reliable, more systematic and more harmonized statistical data on migration, integration and discrimination in Europe. The project's main aim was to contribute to a better understanding of migration related statistical data, data sources and data collection practices as well as data needs. Over the project's lifetime, the project team investigated the scope, availability and comparability of quantitative data in the area of migration, integration and discrimination in Europe, studying available statistical data and data collection in 29 countries. Under the coordination of the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD), over 40 researchers from 18 partner institutions as well as additional experts affiliated to non-partner institutions contributed to the project. The project built on earlier projects undertaken by members of the project team, notably the FP5 project COMPTSTAT and the FP6 project THESIM, research initiatives within the IMISCOE network of excellence and similar research efforts undertaken or commissioned by key stakeholders in migration statistics such as Eurostat, the OECD and UNECE, in many of which members of the project team have been involved. The project's outputs consist of three main pillars: 1) country reports on national data collection systems in each of the 27 EU Member States as well as Norway and Switzerland; 2) a database with metainformation on quantitative datasets containing migration related information in the 29 countries covered; and 3) thematic working papers on data collection in particular thematic areas and specific issues of data collection. These include comparative studies on the data availability and comparability in 12 thematic areas, 2 studies on conceptualising and measuring discrimination and integration respectively and a summary analysis of data needs from a policy perspective. An overview study on the availability of data concerning migration, integration and discrimination completes the third pillar of the project. The database contains over 1,400 dataset descriptions covering some 180,000 variables.

### **Institutions involved in data collection**

Several institutions and bodies are involved in international data collection on migration related issues. In the European Union context, the statistical office of the European Union, Eurostat, is the most important institution at the European Union level, although various other European Union institutions as well as other international agencies and scientific networks also play an important role. At the national level national statistical offices are usually the main bodies charged with collection, compilation and dissemination of core data on migration-related issues. In addition, national statistical offices are also the main bodies charged with coordination of data collection involving other actors. However, on the national level, various other actors also play an important role, in particular in regard to collection of data. Indeed, an important aspect of the institutional set-up in national contexts is the importance of institutions with only a limited genuine mandate in statistical data collection, which raises important questions regarding coordination and the design of comprehensive policies on data collection involving all relevant stakeholders, including national statistical offices, other public authorities, research institutes or and private actors. While there are increasing efforts to coordinate data collection between different actors on the national level, which frequently involve efforts to link datasets held by

different institutions, in many countries there is still a lack of coordination and cooperation, which seriously hamper efforts to improve statistical data collection on migration.

### **Data Sources**

Quantitative data collection on migration has been a fast developing area in the past decade, marked by increasing efforts to harmonise statistics on the international and on the national level as well as increasing efforts to extend systematic data collection on migrants beyond core demographic data. In the project, four basic types of data sources have been distinguished: (1) population censuses; (2) administrative registers; (3) counts and (4) sample surveys. In all countries covered by the project all types of data exist, although with great variations regarding their relevance for migration research.

The census is one of the most important and at the same time one of the most reliable sources of information. A population census can be defined as a full enumeration of the population. As such, censuses potentially provide extensive information on the total population with a migration background, though the availability of information on migration related information differs between individual countries' and often also between different census rounds in one country. The way how censuses are conducted has increasingly diversified and an increasing number of countries have moved away from traditional, questionnaire based censuses and, partly for cost reasons, use combinations of a traditional census, registers and sample surveys. Some countries now exclusively rely on registers.

The second type of data sources - registers – are an increasingly important source of statistical information. They can be defined as regularly or continuously updated data systems containing information about a person's current status. As a rule, registers have been put in place for administrative purposes and produce statistics only as a by-product. While administrative registers such as aliens registers, residence permit registers, employment or social insurance registers, usually provide a good coverage of the population of concern, they are limited in the scope of information they contain. In particular, they often lack important background variables. These are usually irrelevant for the specific administrative purposes a register was set up but crucial for scientific analyses. To some extent, register linkage allows to overcome these problems, albeit register linkages itself is fraught with many technical and legal problems.

A third type of data source, and usually also based on administrative records are counts. Counts are either based on specific enumerations or on existing registers (register based counts). In contrast to registers, counts do not allow to identify changes in a person's status over time, but rather record such changes as 'event' (e.g. for example, the acquisition of citizenship) at a specific point in time. In contrast to sample surveys, counts usually involve a comprehensive enumeration of a certain type of event.

A fourth type of data sources are sample surveys. A sample survey is a statistically representative survey of a sample of the population or part of the population. Surveys remain one of the major sources providing information on migration, integration and discrimination. One

of the main advantages of surveys is that they are very rich in information. In addition, surveys allow to collect data which are not or only to a limited extent available from registers, such as relational information or information on views and experiences of respondents. For cross-national research, surveys are additionally of interest as they allow generating comparable data through harmonised indicators or indeed harmonised questionnaire items. However, there are also disadvantages of using surveys in migration research. In particular, accurately sampling migrants is a major challenge and as a result, many general population surveys are biased as migrants are concerned. In addition, sample sizes of migrants are often too low, allowing only simple statistical analyses on simple categories of migrants. Specific migrant surveys or oversampling of migrants are common ways to tackle these problems.

### **National data collection systems**

National data collection systems vary considerably according to methods of data collection, definitions used, thematic areas considered relevant and availability of certain information. These differences in data collection reflect more fundamental differences in statistical traditions, institutional structures, political system, welfare regimes and migration histories. Generally, the Scandinavian countries predominantly rely on register-based statistics; but also in other countries such as Austria, the Netherlands, and Slovenia registers are central to data collection or have become so recently. Often, however, they are complemented by other data sources, notably surveys. By contrast, Germany, France or Spain obtain a good deal of relevant data predominantly from a wide range of sample surveys. In some countries, however, the census is still the major source of information on migrants. Generally, many potentially useful data sources are not exploited and more efforts need to be invested to make these available.

### **Recommendations**

Major differences exist in the concepts used for identifying migrants and their descendants. Information on 'migration background' can be based on citizenship, origin (mostly country of birth), legal status, descent and/ or ethnicity. The differences used in the identification of persons with 'migration background' lead to the major problems of comparability.

The introduction of additional information on migration-related information, beyond citizenship and country of birth is highly recommended in several datasets. The information collected should be presented in the most detailed breakdowns available to avoid incomparability due to different categorisations. Second, the data collected should be made accessible to researchers more easily in order to allow for exhaustive utilisation of existent information. Third, a better and closer co-operation between data owners on the national and on the international level is an important element of improving data availability and comparability in Europe. Fourth, oversampling of target populations in surveys and the collection of more longitudinal data are important steps toward improving the data situation and opportunities to measure migration, integration and discrimination issues. Finally, general awareness-raising activities regarding the importance of reliable data collection could improve the willingness to provide desired information.

## 0. Introduction

During the past few decades, migration has increasingly become a major policy concern throughout Europe. Clearly, migration has been one of the major factors shaping European societies in demographic, economic, social and political terms in the post-War era. From 1950 to 2007 the total foreign resident population in Europe grew more than sevenfold, from 3.8 million (1.7 percent of the total population) in 1950 to 10.9 million (3.3. percent) in 1970, 16 million (4.5 percent) in 1990 to 20 million (5.3 per cent) in 2000 and 28 million in 2007. In 2005, the number of foreign born population in the EU stood at just over 40 Million or 8.8 per cent of the total EU population of 495 million. Of the more than 40 million persons born abroad, two thirds have been born outside the European Union (Bade 2003, Kraller et al. 2010).

Initially, much of the public debate as well as policy makers focused on immigration flows and the size of the foreign (less often: the immigrant) resident population in a given country. It was often restricted to particular categories of migrants such as labour migrants or refugees. Today, the policy interest is much broader, pertaining also to demographic issues including the levels, but increasingly also the composition of migration flows. Wider social, economic and political issues are under consideration, including patterns of immigrant employment, education or residential patterns – issues which may all be subsumed under the overarching concern over migrant integration. In addition, with the development of policies on anti-discrimination on the European level with the Treaty of Amsterdam, pioneered on the national level by individual countries such as the UK and the Netherlands, discrimination has emerged as another policy concern, often coupled with concerns over racism and xenophobia. Other important issues, including issues related to human rights of migrants (trafficking, victimisation, labour exploitation), and issues related to the broader debate on migration and development (remittances and remittance behaviour, transnational practices, etc) are increasingly important at the European level and will also require data collection geared towards these specific concerns.

Reflecting the increased importance of migration as a social process, the demand for sound and empirically grounded knowledge, including statistical data on migrants and their descendants, has greatly increased as well. On a European level, the communitarisation of migration policy with the Amsterdam Treaty has similarly led to an increased demand for sound and increasingly sophisticated statistical data, as has the wider agenda of fostering integration, combating discrimination, and countering racism and xenophobia. Increasingly sophisticated data is in particular demand regarding patterns and processes of migrant integration as well as discrimination. Indeed, any analysis of integration and discrimination rests on the availability of a broad range of statistical information, including the demographic composition of the immigrant population, information on individual migration histories, data on labour market structures and the labour market performance of immigrants, and migrants' educational attainment, to name but the most important aspects. In contrast to the national level, where statistical data may well serve their purpose of providing essential information, even if collected in an idiosyncratic and



country specific fashion, the adoption of the European Union as the unit of analysis clearly necessitates comparable data, without which no meaningful comparisons can be undertaken. Thus, the considerable expansion of the Union's policy competences in the wider area of migration, integration and anti-discrimination, has clearly created an unprecedented momentum for more comparable data and towards the harmonisation of statistics, but it has also given rise to new data needs.

In addition to the policy need for comparable statistical data on migration and integration, there is also a strong case for systematically mapping, describing and analyzing statistical data collection from a purely scientific perspective. Not only is knowledge on the quality and nature of statistical information crucial to understand what data actually can show and where their limitations are – which is essential for any meaningful interpretation and analysis of data. But such knowledge is even more important for comparative, cross-national research.

The project “Promoting Comparative Quantitative Research in the Field of Migration and Integration in Europe” (PROMINSTAT) responds to these needs and was designed to provide researchers, policymakers and the wider interested public with tools and relevant analyses for a better understanding of statistical data collection on migration, integration and discrimination in Europe.

This report presents a synthesis of the main results of the project. The report is structured as follows: Section 1 presents an overview of the project, its background, the aims and outputs and the research tools developed by the project. Section 2 then briefly reviews the institutional framework of data collection in Europe, followed by a review of the recent evolution of data collection in Europe in section 3. Section 4 presents a discussion of the four main types of data collection identified by the project team and analyses advantages and disadvantages of these data types in comparative perspective. In so doing, sections 2 to 4 mainly draw on the analysis undertaken in the country reports produced for the project. Section 5 provides a detailed review of data availability, comparability as well as theoretical issues concerning measuring migration in altogether 14 thematic areas, based on thematic studies elaborated in the framework of the project. An additional textbox investigates the extent to which available datasets in Europe consider the migration and development nexus, focusing on remittance data collected in Europe. Section 6 provides a summary of the main findings of the PROMINSTAT project and identifies a series of gaps and needs. The report concludes with a set of recommendations how data collection can be improved.

More extensive information, including the full versions of country analyses and of the thematic studies produced in the report is available via the projects' website at [www.prominstat.eu](http://www.prominstat.eu).

# 1. Project Overview

## 1.1 Background

With the Amsterdam Treaty and the increasing competence of the European Union in the field of migration, integration, anti-discrimination and asylum, the need for comparative data in this area has been increasingly recognized. Social scientists, on the other hand, have a much broader agenda for comparative research, which goes beyond the immediate needs of policy makers and requires much more sophisticated data as well as knowledge about datasets that might be used for comparative research purposes.

PROMINSTAT ('Promoting Comparative Quantitative Research in the Field of Migration and Integration in Europe') has been designed to address these needs. In particular, PROMINSTAT aimed at

- Reducing the manifold difficulties social scientists are confronted with when identifying suitable and comparable data or data definitions for empirical cross-country analysis in the field of migration and integration.
- Promoting and enhancing quantitative research in the area of migration and integration by providing easily accessible information on the data needed for quantitative research in the field of migration and integration.
- Providing important contextual information needed to assess the quality and nature of the data for all 29 European countries covered by the project
- Discussing methodological issues arising when working with statistical data of varying quality in different degrees of comparability and different scope within the larger field of migration and integration, and
- Analysing the availability, comparability and scope of data in respect to selected important thematic areas
- Contributing to the improvement of the quality of data collection systems in the EU countries and provide policy-makers with concrete recommendations for the improvement of data collection in Europe
- Contributing to the development of new and to the evaluation of compliance with existing standards in regard to the collection of statistical data in the field of migration and integration.

PROMINSTAT builds on and extends earlier research activities, including the project 'Comparing National Data Sources in the Field of Migration and Integration' (COMPSTAT), carried out under the 5<sup>th</sup> Framework Programme between 2001 and 2002 and the FP6 project 'Towards Harmonised European Statistics on International Migration' (THESIM), implemented between 2004 and 2005. The main objective of the COMPSTAT project was to establish a metadatabase of statistical datasets available as individual data. Designed as a pilot project, the project covered only 8 countries in depth, while collecting more limited information in respect to two more countries. The COMPSTAT Project demonstrated the feasibility of establishing a comprehensive database with comprehensive descriptions of statistical datasets on migration and integration. The results of COMPSTAT showed that in addition to the issue of comparability of datasets, the uneven distribution of topics covered between different countries, i.e. the scope of data collection by thematic areas should be a reason for concern, especially regarding those topics that are crucial to monitor, analyse and explain patterns of integration.

THESIM addressed the policy needs concerning the EU Regulation on Community Statistics on Migration and International Protection. The project's objective was to provide possible solutions to the persistent problems of reliability and comparability of international migration statistics in Europe. It did so by analysing the data requested from Member States under the Regulation, covering the then 25 Member States. The focus of the project was on five types of data: migration flows, population stocks, asylum statistics, statistics on residence permits and statistics on citizenship acquisition, and thus was relatively limited in focus. In addition to a mapping of data on these five topics across Europe and their evaluation in respect to the obligations under the Regulation on Community Statistics on Migration and International Protection, the project described both administrative procedures underlying many of the published statistical data and the nature of the statistical datasets/data derived from these administrative tools. Finally, the project also investigated innovative approaches for data collection, while undertaking also a thematic, cross-national comparison of data collection in the five thematic areas covered. The project results highlight considerable differences in the definitions countries follow when accounting for immigrants as well as major quality problems of certain types of administrative datasets.

PROMINSTAT combines the approaches of THESIM and COMPSTAT, while expanding the more limited scope of the analysis undertaken in the two projects. It does so, by

- 1) comprehensively mapping and describing relevant statistical datasets containing information on migrants and their descendants as well as datasets on attitudes of the majority population towards migrants, and by making this information available through an online accessible database,
- 2) describing and evaluating national data collection systems through national reports on each of the 29 countries covered by the project,

- 3) by drafting comparative studies on the possibilities and limitations of comparative research on various topics in the field of migration and integration, and providing guidelines for research on these topics,
- 4) by investigating the links between research needs, policy needs, and data policies and by providing concrete recommendations for improvement of data collection as well as for the improvement of the organization and management of data collection in Europe

PROMINSTAT covers altogether 29 countries. Initially, only the EU-25 Member States as well as Norway and Switzerland have been covered. In the last phase of the project, Romania and Bulgaria have been added, although they have been covered to a more limited extent.

## **1.2. Project outputs**

PROMINSTAT was designed as a tool to assess the availability and comparability of existing data collection on migration, integration and discrimination in Europe, to identify strengths and weaknesses as well as gaps in data collection. It has done so through three main outputs: (1) an online database on statistical data collection on migration, integration and discrimination in Europe; (2) country reports on national data collection systems and (3) thematic studies on particular thematic areas of data collection. In the following, we describe the design and approach of these project elements in more detail.

### **1.2.1 The online database**

The **online database** includes metadata on statistical datasets relevant to migration and integration research. The database entries provide general information on datasets, including technical information on type, coverage and methodology as well as extensive information on variables contained in these datasets. Besides the use of the database for investigating data collection issues on a meta level, the database also serves as a useful practical tool for researchers and students to search for existing data needed for everyday research. The database contains some 1,400 dataset descriptions comprising more than 180,000 variables: [www.prominstat.eu/prominstat/database](http://www.prominstat.eu/prominstat/database)

#### ***Database design***

The database is a comprehensive inventory of (national) datasets relevant for migration, integration and discrimination research. In addition to official statistical datasets, maintained by public authorities or national statistical offices, datasets produced for research purposes are also covered to some extent, if their relevance justifies their description. The project identifies and documents types of datasets that may provide innovative approaches to measure phenomena relating to migration and integration.

The database entries consist of two sets of descriptions:

The **general data file** describes the main technical characteristics of the dataset, including universe of persons covered, ownership of the data, access to the data, sample sizes, publications and aggregate statistics based on the dataset, among others. There are also free text fields in which country correspondents can add additional information.

The **variable file** contains the wording and the definition of the variable (in English) and – if applicable – international standards to which variable definitions refer. The latter allows monitoring and evaluating to what extent variable definitions comply with international standards in these fields where such standards exist.

### ***Types of datasets covered***

PROMINSTAT covers the following types of datasets: **registers, counts, censuses and sample surveys**. The datasets included meet specific selection criteria. Datasets not meeting the selection criteria are included in the database as not-described datasets.

The project mainly collects information on statistical datasets themselves. Nevertheless, key information on various outputs produced on the basis of a given dataset, including aggregate statistics, are also provided. Many aggregate statistics – whether based on registers or on primary data collection – have also been described as counts.

#### **Textbox: Definitions of Type of Datasets**

##### *Registers*

Mean regularly or continuously updated data systems containing information about persons' current status, (e.g. population register, register of legally resident foreigners, income register, tax register, unemployment register).

##### *Counts*

Mean a count of events linked to persons (such as birth, death, naturalisation, migration etc.) or a count of persons (e.g. count of prison population, persons at school) at a certain reference date or within a certain reference period. The count may be register based or based on primary data collection.

##### *Censuses and register-based censuses*

For our purposes, the term census refers exclusively to general population and housing censuses. Other types of datasets which sometimes may also be called "censuses" (e.g. census of the prison population, etc.) shall be classified as counts. Censuses and register-based censuses, i.e. datasets extracted from population and/or other registers at a certain point in time used as replacements for regular censuses.

##### *Sample Surveys*

Refers exclusively to sample based surveys which involve interviews with respondents. Other types of sample based datasets (like samples drawn from administrative registers for statistical purposes) shall be described as either a count or registers (as applicable).

## ***Selection Criteria***

The online database describes datasets according to the following characteristics: key variables, spatial coverage, period of data collection, accessibility of datasets and (production) background.

### (1) Key variables

Datasets have been described if they contain key variables identifying persons with a migration background, notably citizenship, place of birth, ethnicity or substitutes such as religion, or mother tongue.

Surveys also have been described despite the lack of any of these background variables in case respondents were asked systematically about their views on matters of immigration, the integration of immigrants, multiculturalism, ethnic minorities, xenophobia or racism. In addition, administrative datasets collecting information on law enforcement, regulatory activities and other forms of administrative activities in the field of migration, integration, and international mobility in general (residence permits, visa, apprehensions, border crossings, expulsions, etc) have been covered as comprehensively as possible, whether or not they actually collect any of the above mentioned variables .

### (2) Spatial coverage of the datasets to be covered

In terms of spatial coverage, priority has been given to datasets with nation-wide coverage. If locally or regionally collected data was available in aggregated format on the national level, datasets were also described. In addition, important datasets produced for research purposes with selective geographical coverage (e.g. selected major cities in a country or across several countries) were included if the quality, scope and methodology of the dataset warranted its inclusion.

### (3) Period of data collection of the datasets to be covered

In general, PROMINSTAT aimed to collect information on datasets from 1985 to present, except for censuses information was also collected for earlier censuses. For the countries where datasets had already been described in the COMPSTAT project, this timeline proved feasible. For all other countries the focus had to be shifted to the period since approximately 2000.

### (4) Format, type and accessibility of the datasets to be covered

Generally, the priority has been given to datasets which exist in an electronic format (which is now almost exclusively the case). Micro-level, non-aggregated datasets have been given priority over aggregate datasets. In addition, all accessible datasets that met all other criteria have been covered. In this context, accessibility means all forms of accessibility whether direct and full, restricted or mediated (e.g. if researcher did not get direct access to a dataset but could commission the institution owning the dataset to produce an analysis following the specifications

developed by the researcher) and limited (e.g. only standard aggregate analyses were made available to researchers/ the wider public). Datasets not (yet) accessible for research purposes have also been covered, if accessibility is in principle conceivable and might be granted in the future (a data-system that does not have to be described would be, e.g., a system set up for internal use of the police or the judiciary only, which contains highly confidential information about persons' criminal record). Datasets which only exist as aggregate data on the national level have been described as counts.

#### (5) Background of data collection of the datasets to be covered:

Datasets have been covered if the data was collected for purposes of public administration, general national statistics, and social research. Datasets may have been neglected if the data collection was commissioned (primarily) by companies for purposes of market research, mass media to use the data in their coverage, political parties, interest associations or other organisations for the purpose of developing political strategies on the basis of information about the electorate, their clientele or society at large. Surveys of type b) are often not accessible because the organisation which commissioned the survey did so for economic or political reasons and has little interest in making the data accessible to the public and/or to social science research.

### **1.2.2 The PROMINSTAT country reports**

National data collection systems are systematically described in the form of **country reports**. The country reports on national data collection systems have been designed as a resource of information on for everyone dealing with statistical data on migration. Within the project, they served as one important source of information for the compilation of thematic studies – alongside the database and additional information collected by the authors of the thematic studies.

The country reports provide descriptions of key datasets and the institutional setup of data collection in each country, concepts employed and the evolution of national data collection systems. In addition, the country reports analyse the scope, quality and availability of data collection in a wide range of thematic areas.

The country reports have been organized in eight sections. Section one identifies the key data sources and responsible institutions; section two focuses on the recent evolution of data collection systems; section three describes the coordination of statistical data collection on migration and explores the possibilities for linking of data from different sources; section four outlines definitions used in key datasets that allow to distinguish different group of migrants. Section five is divided into two parts: the first one deals with data collection of core demographic data on immigrants, the second part analyses data in the field of integration, discrimination and diversity. Section six focuses on accessibility of data; section seven on the quality and scope of data collection. Finally, section eight leads to conclusions and recommendations.

The country reports are available at the project website under [www.prominstat.eu](http://www.prominstat.eu).

### 1.2.3 PROMINSTAT Thematic Studies

Third, **thematic studies** exploring the possibilities and limitations of conducting comparative research were prepared in a wide range of thematic areas, including population stocks, migration flows, legal status, nationality, asylum, irregular migration, employment, incomes, housing, health, families and households and political participation. Additionally, two cross-cutting studies on data availability and comparability in the area of integration on the one hand and discrimination on the other hand were prepared. The thematic studies have been published in the Thematic Working Paper Series, accessible on the project website at [www.prominstat.eu](http://www.prominstat.eu)

Two types of thematic studies have been prepared. The first type of studies consisted of a thorough **mapping of statistical datasets in 12 thematic areas**, resulting in specific **assessments of the data situation and the possibilities and limitations for comparative research in these areas**. The studies follow a thematic logic and take into account all statistical datasets providing information on particular thematic areas. The tasks of the studies can be summarised as follows:

- A first task of the study has been to describe the main research issues in a given field and to link it to a discussion of what kind of data would in principle be needed to address the issues under study.
- A second task has been to analyse the scope and the nature of the available statistical information on the topic under study in the 27 countries initially covered by the project.<sup>1</sup>
- A third task of the study has been to analyse the comparability of data in this field across countries. A special concern in this regard has been to what extent international standards are available and to what extent they are complied with.
- A fourth task of the study has been to assess what kind of statements are possible on the basis of the available data and assess the possibilities for, and limitations of the available data for different types of research questions.
- The fifth and final task of the studies has been to develop recommendations how data collection can be improved, both from a more pragmatic country perspective, and in a comparative perspective.

The second set of studies consisting of **two studies** on explored **approaches to, operationalisations of, and possibilities for research on integration and discrimination**. A main task of these studies is to identify different concepts of and dimensions of integration and

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<sup>1</sup> Romania and Bulgaria have not been included in the thematic analyses, given that the project consortium only decided to include the two countries in the final year of project implementation.



discrimination, respectively, and to analyse the data implications of different concepts used. Second, these studies discuss different methodological approaches to study integration and discrimination, respectively and finally, assess the possibilities as well as limitations for different approaches to study integration and discrimination on the basis of available data in a comparative perspective.

#### **1.4 Research tools and scientific impact of the project**

The main tool developed in the course of the project was the project database which includes over 1,400 dataset descriptions with over 180,000 variables, which document the detailed content of the datasets. The database presents an exhaustive inventory of datasets relevant for migration, integration and discrimination research in Europe and can be exploited for different purposes:

For analytical purposes, the database can be used to study (1) data collection practices in different European countries, (2) the general availability of certain data (3) and the comparability of existing data in different datasets nationally. As such the database has been one of the main sources of information for the PROMINSTAT country reports and the thematic studies elaborated in the project. However, the database also is intended to serve a wider audience. In conjunction with other project results that are available from the project website the database is a source of background information on statistical data on migration and integration in Europe useful for “ordinary” users of statistical data, including policy makers, researchers and others. Thus, researchers using data from particular data sources may use the database as a source of background information on the data they use. For policy makers and in particular relevant stakeholders in regard to migration statistics, the database is a useful inventory to review the quality, adequacy and scope of statistical data collection on migration and integration by giving a much clearer picture on what kind of data is available, which thematic areas are sufficiently covered by existing datasets and to what extent data is comparable across countries. Finally, the database can also be used for educational purposes, and in particular for training in social science methods and secondary data analysis at institutions of higher learning.

The main challenge of the database will be to keep it updated in the future since data collection is a fast developing area.

To supplement the information in the database, the country reports provide a source of information for more qualitative descriptions of data collection systems in each of the countries covered. The thematic papers are the first overview studies of data availability and comparability in different areas related to migration issues and thus ensure that the database was exploited extensively by the project members. Besides the content-wise value, the studies include innovative research on statistics on a *meta-level*; an area which is comparably new and of increasing importance due to the increasing availability of data in the social sciences but also in other scientific disciplines.

## **1.5 Dissemination activities**

The project's dissemination strategy rests on four main pillars: (1) dissemination of project outputs through the project website; (2) online dissemination of publications through targeted dissemination e-mails; (3) presentation of results at international conferences and organisation of targeted workshops as well as (4) publication of project edited books, journal articles and other academic outputs.

### **The website**

The project website ([www.prominstat.eu](http://www.prominstat.eu)) is the main outlet for PROMINSTAT outputs. It features 6 sections, namely 1) a section with general information on the project, the project design and the project team, 2) a section describing the data collection for the project database, 3) a section containing the country reports on national data collection systems, including a description of the purpose and design of reports; 4) a section with the thematic working paper series, including a description of the purpose and format of the thematic studies published in the series, 5) a section links and descriptions of other international data archives, statistical online databases and survey programmes (see annex 5-7), and 6) a section with links to relevant institutions and projects. Additionally, the website contains a link to the project database ([www.prominstat.eu/database](http://www.prominstat.eu/database)).

The main published outputs of the project – all available on the website – thus include the online database, the country reports and the thematic working papers. An overview of the country reports and the thematic working papers can be found in annex 2 and 3, respectively.

### **Targeted dissemination announcements**

The publication of project outputs (launch of the database, publication of country reports and working papers) was announced through targeted email dissemination activities via large professional networks such as IMISCOE or H-Net Migration History, and personalised mailing lists, including national statistical offices in the UNECE region, European Commission representatives and other relevant international agencies and stakeholders.

### **Dissemination through conferences and workshops**

During the project's lifetime, project results were extensively disseminated at national and international conferences. Several project related workshops were organised and presentations of project results and database held. Major events include workshops and project presentations at the annual IMISCOE conferences in Brighton in 2007, in Bilbao in 2008 and in Stockholm in 2009 as well as at the international Metropolis conference in Bonn in 2008. The main dissemination activities targeting an international audience are presented in annex 4. In addition, project team members presented the project in a large number of smaller workshops, expert panels and other contexts.

## **Academic publications**

Results from the project have been published in different forms and fora. Apart from the publication of the core results of the project as online publications on the project's website, numerous individual publications have resulted, or have been informed by the project.

In addition, a book publication with abridged versions of a selection of thematic papers is currently prepared and planned for publication in 2011/2012.

## 2. Institutional framework of data collection/ production

This chapter deals with the institutional framework involved in data collection in the area of migration and integration. Statistical data collection on migration, integration and discrimination is a complex process, involving a large number of institutions at the local, regional, national, European and global level. Data collected on an international level is usually based on aggregated statistics drawn from national sources, although for some surveys individual data or micro data may also be available on the international level. On the national level, data are usually collected centrally. In some cases only aggregate data are available on the national level.

On the **European level** Eurostat – the statistical agency of the European Commission – is the most important institution involved in data collection. Its role, however, is so far largely limited to compile aggregated data from national statistical offices on a relatively limited number of topics. Eurostat arguably has a more proactive role in the development, co-ordination and implementation of surveys co-ordinated at the European Union level. Until the adoption of the Regulation on Community Statistics on Migration and International Protection data collection was largely based on voluntary agreements. With the adoption of the Regulation this has changed, although it has to be seen how the Regulation will be put into practice. In addition to Eurostat a series of other European Union institutions are also involved in data collection, usually in close co-operation with Eurostat. These include various policy DGs, the European Migration Network, and European Union agencies such as FRONTEX and the Fundamental Rights Agency, amongst others.

Apart from European Union institutions a number of international organisations, notably the OECD and UNHCR, play an important role in collecting and disseminating statistical data on migration in Europe. In addition, institutions such as GESIS in Germany or the Norwegian Social Science Data Service play an important role in archiving and disseminating data on international surveys.

At the **national level** national statistical offices are the most important actors regarding the collection, compilation and dissemination of statistical data. Statistical offices are mainly responsible for implementing national censuses, conducting a limited number of large-scale sample surveys (e.g. LFS, EU-SILC), managing statistical registers (e.g. population registers, employment registers) and compiling aggregate statistics on the national level (e.g. vital statistics, migration movements, education statistics, etc.). In so doing, national statistical offices often draw on information from administrative registers managed by a wide range of administrative authorities. The role of statistical offices, however, varies greatly between different countries. While in countries with sophisticated comprehensive register based systems, notably in the Nordic countries statistical office have an important role in the maintenance, development and coordination of registers and usually have regular access to most administrative registers maintained by other authorities, more often statistical offices have only

limited direct access to data from other authorities, only to aggregate data or not on a regular basis. Despite this, the general trend is towards more coordinated data collection systems and increasing linkage of administrative datasets.

### **3. The evolution of (inter-)national data collection systems**

Data collection practices in the European Union have undergone major changes in the past decade or so. These changes concern four dimensions: (1) changes of data collection and co-ordination of data collection at the national level; (2) a considerable expansion of the available data; (3) the increasing shift towards more complex ways to identify migrants, and (4) increased efforts to coordinate data collection and harmonise data on migration, integration and discrimination on an international level.

In the past few years, major efforts have been undertaken in a number of European countries to better coordinate data collection between different administrative bodies involved in data collection. In addition, there have been increasing attempts to exploit administrative data, and in particular, to establish comprehensive register based data collection systems, complemented by surveys. As a result, an increasing number of countries have abandoned traditional censuses based on face to face interviews and/or distributed questionnaires and will conduct completely or partly register based censuses in the next census round in 2010. In addition to these general changes of data collection practices there have also been specific efforts to more systematically collect statistical data on immigrants and persons with an immigrant background, ranging from regular statistical reports on migrants to more systematic “integration monitoring” and covering a wide range of indicators.

Partly as a result of better co-ordination of data collection and new possibilities for data linkage, partly because of the introduction of new dataset or the improvement of existing ones (for example, through the introduction of variables allowing to identify migrants) the scope of available data on migration, integration and discrimination has greatly expanded over the past few years. In addition, an increasing number of datasets allow for more nuanced definitions of migrants or persons with an immigrant background. Thus, country of birth is now routinely included as a variable in surveys, in addition to the more traditional variable of citizenship. But also in other datasets, country of birth is now more common. While still relatively rare, an increasing number of datasets also allow identifying second generation migrants through variables on parents’ country of birth. However, ethnicity remains a contested variable and data on ethnicity is collected only in relatively few countries.

Finally, several initiatives in the past decade have greatly increased the availability of statistical data on migration, integration and discrimination on the European level or promise to do so in the future. A milestone has been the adoption of the Regulation (EC) No 862/2007 on Community Statistics on Migration and International Protection in 2007. But also in regard to

socio-economic statistics and discrimination, considerable efforts have been undertaken. Despite the non-inclusion of socio-economic variables in the final version of the regulation on migration statistics, there is a growing awareness of the need for comparable socio-economic data on migrants and minorities in general and on discrimination in particular. There is also a growing number of initiatives and measures to improve data on labour market performance of migrants and minorities and discrimination. Already the Community Action Programme against Discrimination 2001-2006, adopted in 2000<sup>2</sup>, provided for the collection of equality data. In this context, DG Employment established a working group on equality data in 2002, involving experts from ten EU Member States. The task of the working group was to assess the availability of equality data as well as the scope and possible improvements to the data. A separate study financed under the action programme provides a detailed investigation of discrimination statistics and makes a number of recommendations on how data on discrimination can be improved (Olli & Kofod Olsen 2006). A second study financed under the programme with a somewhat broader remit investigates equality statistics in a broader perspective (Makkonen 2006). Since 2005, Eurostat has been involved in compiling equality statistics for DG Employment. Since 2007, equality statistics are a separate action mentioned in the Community's annual statistical programme.

Possible approaches to collecting statistics on discrimination and specific national experiences were discussed in a meeting of the European Advisory Committee on Statistical Information in the Economic and Social Spheres (CEIES) in 2007.<sup>3</sup> Amongst others, the meeting recommended to explore ways to including ethnicity as a social core variable in the framework of existing EU survey instruments, and to improve the availability of other variables to enable the indirect identification of discrimination. These variables include (1) demographic factors such as age, family composition and social networks; (2) human capital factors, including educational attainment, skills, knowledge of the majority language; (3) immigration related issues, including first/second/third generation, age at immigration, duration of living in the country and legal status in the country. In addition, the meeting made recommendations to include questions on discrimination experiences, perceived discrimination of others and attitudes towards discrimination in EU wide survey tools such as the EU-SILC. Rather than general questions, these questions should refer to specific areas of discrimination (labour market, health services, housing, etc.).

In addition to official data collection, a series of research studies have recently been undertaken, or are currently under way, collecting statistical information on labour market performance of migrants and minorities, for example the LIMITS and the TIES projects.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Council Decision 2000/750/EC (27.11.2000)

<sup>3</sup> 'Ethnic and Racial Discrimination on the Labour Market: Measurement, statistics and indicators, 33rd CEIES Seminar 7-8 June 2007, Valletta, Malta, available at [http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/conferences/introduction/2007/33th\\_ceies\\_seminar](http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/conferences/introduction/2007/33th_ceies_seminar)

<sup>4</sup> See on TIES: <http://www.tiesproject.eu/>; on LIMITS see <http://www.zsi.at/en/projekte/abgeschlossen/268.html> (1.06.2010)

### 3.1 National data collection systems

**National data collection systems** vary considerably according to methods of data collection, definitions used, thematic areas considered relevant and availability of certain information. These differences have evolved over time due to different historical and political developments and circumstances in the different countries. Consequently, as the data collection is related to historical developments and settings the harmonisation of data collection systems in the European Union cannot be achieved rapidly and needs time to take place.

The major historical and political developments affecting the data collection practices of several European countries are thus the major historical and political happenings of the past, most notably the fall of the former socialist regimes around 1990 and the enlargements of the European Union.

For instance the independency of Slovenia in 1991 changed the definition of the Slovenian population and thus the population to be included in the Central Population Register. Prior to April 1991 the population of Slovenia included all permanent residents who were citizens of the Socialist Republic of Slovenia or any other republic of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. After independence the Slovenian population has included all citizens of Slovenia and all other former Yugoslavs who were registered as permanent residents and had not acquired Slovenian or any other citizenship. In 1995 the definition of the population was again modified now excluding Slovenians residing abroad and including non-Slovenian residents and refugees (cf. SORS 2006). In Estonia a new Estonian statistical system has been developed in the early 1990s as the new administrative tasks due to the independency created new needs for data collection. The accession to the European Union has major impact on the countries' data collection because of two reasons: First, the European Union demands certain statistics to be provided to Eurostat which might have not been available so far. Second, the accession to the EU has led to changes of legal regulations which are reflected in the statistical data collection on population statistics. For instance, in Malta new databases – such as a database on resident permits or the database holding information on asylum seekers and refugees – were newly established after 2004 in order to comply with EU standards. Historical and political changes affect the definitions used in the statistics and such modifications lead to incomparability of certain data over time.

Besides the introduction of new datasets, considerable efforts have been undertaken to improve existing datasets in the past two decades. Those efforts mainly comprise

- the computerisation of existing data collection, as several datasets were still kept on paper at the beginning of the 2000s,
- endeavours to link existing datasets, including the introduction of common identifiers necessary for linking datasets, and

- the introduction of additional or updated information to be included in existing datasets.

For instance, Austria is going to conduct a registers-based census in the 2011 census round for the first time. For this the new so-called Sector-Specific Personal Identifier (ssPIN) has been introduced which includes a different number for different sectors/areas (e.g. health, tax, etc.) and which is only decipherable by Statistics Austria. Additionally, several new datasets – such as the Registers of Educational Attainment – needed to be built up in order to collect all the necessary information for the 2011 census. Yet, updating and improving administrative datasets could also cause problems. For instance, attempts to erase registered residents who are assumed to have left the country can cause major problems, as it was the case in Slovenia<sup>5</sup> or in Spain.<sup>6</sup>

Development of data collection is an ongoing process and major changes can be expected for the future. Several countries have conducted target projects (e.g. UK, AT) to improve their administrative and statistical data collection and changes are still being carried out at the time of writing this report. The future development of data collection clearly points towards elaboration of register-based data production and the number of fully-fledged register-based censuses will increase in the 2010 round of censuses. The usage of registers for statistical purposes strongly depends on technical and legal possibilities allowing for linkages between different registers in order to obtain the necessary information. Several countries are currently working on improving existing registers or introducing new ones. However, while registers are indeed superior in many respects to other types of datasets, notably surveys, different types of datasets have to be seen as complementary, rather than as alternatives to each others. For example, information such as issues related to self-ascribed identity or personal opinions can almost by definition only be collected through surveys.

### **3.2 International data collection**

Eurostat is the main institution that collects, compiles and disseminates statistics relevant to migration, integration and discrimination research. However, several other international organisations are involved in data compilation and dissemination at an international level as well. The United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR) for instance regularly collects statistics on asylum seeking and refugees on the global level and disseminates the statistics via frequent publications and its online database.<sup>7</sup> The Statistics Division of the United Nations regularly provides estimates on the migrant population at the global level.<sup>8</sup> Other data compilations are disseminated by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM). In addition, several other agencies or research institutes are involved in data collection and

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<sup>5</sup> Cf. Reichel 2009a

<sup>6</sup> Cf. Prominstat Country Report Spain

<sup>7</sup> See [www.unhcr.org/statistics](http://www.unhcr.org/statistics), February 2010

<sup>8</sup> See: <http://esa.un.org/migration/>, February 2010



dissemination either through the implementation of certain projects on data collection or through permanent data collection activities. These include the Migration Policy Institute (MPI) in Washington, which maintains a limited collection on data on international migration, globally and for the US, the Minnesota Population Center of the University of Minnesota with its IPUMS database of census data, and the Development Research Centre on Migration, Globalisation and Poverty at Sussex, which has established a Global Migrant Origin Database based on UNDESA population estimates in collaboration with the World Bank. Other agencies are involved in more specific types of data collection, such as the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) which collects data on irregular migration, human smuggling and trafficking in CEE and publishes the data annually in its yearbooks, and the Clandestino database hosted by the Hamburg Institute of International Economics.<sup>9</sup> A list of online databases and a brief description of its content are found in annex 5.

## 4. Types of data sources and its availability in a comparative perspective

Data sources can be distinguished according to various aspects, such as the purpose of data collection (e.g. administrative or statistical purposes), the thematic area covered by the data (e.g. migration flows, health, crime, etc.), the method of data collection (e.g. sample survey, census, register), or the nature of the data (micro data or aggregate data).

The differentiation between administrative and statistical data is of major importance since statistics which were originally considered for administrative purposes only often include different definitions of the populations to be enumerated on the one hand and lack of important information which is important for statistical analysis on the other. Often additional information which is not necessary for administrative purposes is only inconsistently available. However, besides its drawbacks administrative data collections remain to be essential sources for statistical purposes.

In the PROMINSTAT projects four basic types of datasets were distinguished: (1) censuses, (2) registers, (3) counts and (4) sample surveys. This section will comparatively analyse the availability and characteristics of these four kinds of datasets, pointing out the strengths and weaknesses of the different sources for migration research.

### 4.1 Census

General population and housing **censuses** can be defined as full enumerations of the population. Basically population censuses can be based on administrative or statistical

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<sup>9</sup> See: <http://irregular-migration.hwwi.net/>, February 2010

registers, on questionnaires (traditional censuses) or on both (mixed). Censuses based solely on questionnaire enumerations (with enumerators or self-enumeration method) are called 'traditional censuses'. Register-based censuses built on several basic registers containing the required information on the population to be enumerated. The first implementation of register-based censuses usually needs long-term planning in order to set up and link the source registers. Both types of censuses can be accompanied by sample surveys collecting additional information which was not covered by the censuses questionnaires or the registers, respectively. In addition as already mentioned, both methods – register-based and traditional – can be combined in order to reduce the burden of the respondents and costs due to shorter questionnaires. A further possibility is to implement so-called rolling censuses which aim at covering the whole population not on a certain reference day but within a certain time period. A rolling survey thus presents a continuously conducted survey covering the whole population over a period of time.<sup>10</sup>

The PROMINSTAT database includes information on 75 censuses carried out between 1960 and 2006. Of these, almost 80 percent were traditional censuses, almost 15 percent were mixed censuses and only some 5 percent of the censuses described were solely based on registers. Since 1999 24 censuses were conducted in the 27 countries (of which two in Ireland while no censuses were conducted in DE, DK, SE and NL). 17 of those 27 censuses were traditional censuses, six were mixed censuses using questionnaires and registers and one was register-based. The trend clearly goes towards register-based censuses and several countries will newly introduce such censuses in the 2010 round, including Austria, Germany, Slovenia and Switzerland. The main motivations for implementing register-based censuses are pragmatic reasons, namely the high costs of traditional, questionnaire-based censuses. For instance the German census of 1987 has cost more than a billion German Marks or more than half a billion Euro (cf. Diekmann 2001: 327). A major limitation of register-based censuses is that information not contained in any of the registers available cannot be covered in the census. This problem especially concerns subjective, identity-related information which is, however, important to research on migration, integration and discrimination. Variables rarely included in registers are self-declared ethnicity, colloquial language or religion. But also core demographic information, for example, information on household and family composition, kinship relationships<sup>11</sup> and occupation may not be covered in registers. Censuses usually allow for identifying the population of a migrant background by both citizenship and country of birth, and in some cases also through other variables such as colloquial language, religion or ethnicity. In the last census round only the censuses in the UK and in Cyprus did not include citizenship and the Greek

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<sup>10</sup> For detailed description cf. UNECE 2006, Appendix II

<sup>11</sup> For example, in the Austrian population registers, which will be the basis for the 2011 census, households are defined as persons sharing a certain dwelling (household-dwelling concept). The register neither records the kinship relationships of individual within a household, nor does it allow to capture family units dispersed across different households.

census did not ask for any information on the country of birth. Twelve countries included any question related to the ethnicity of the persons.

In the recommendations for the 2010 censuses of population and housing prepared by the UNECE together with Eurostat (UNECE 2006) international and internal migration was considered as a core topic to be included in population censuses. It is recommended to include information in the 2010 censuses which allows for identifying stocks of foreigners and foreign-born and if possible descendants of foreign-born and so-called *ever-international migrants*<sup>12</sup> as well as internal migrants. The related core variables<sup>13</sup> are: Country/place of birth, country of citizenship, ever resided abroad and year of arrival in the country, and previous place of residence and date of arrival in the current place. Additionally, the following non-core variables are recommended to be included: Country of previous usual residence abroad, total duration of residence in the country, place of usual residence five years prior to the census, reason for migration, country of birth of parents, and citizenship acquisition (UNECE 2006: 83-93).

**Table 1: Availability of information on citizenship and country of birth in European censuses**

Census	Citizenship	Country of birth	Census	Citizenship	Country of birth	Census	Citizenship	Country of birth
DE 1987*	X	-	UK 1991	-	X	LT 2001*	X	X
EE 1989	-	X	PT 1991	X	X	AT 2001*	X	X
HU 1990	-	-	CY 1992	X	X**	BE 2001*	X	X
FR 1990	X	X	MT 1995	X	X	CY 2001*	-	X**
SE 1990*	X	X	FI 1995	X	X	IT 2001*	X	X
NO 1990	X	X	IE 1996	-	X	ES 2001*	X	X
CH 1990	X	-	FR 1999*	X	X	NO 2001*	X	X
FI 1990	X	X	EE 2000*	X	X	UK 2001*	-	X

<sup>12</sup> An ever-international migrant is defined as a person who has ever changed her or his country of usual residence, whereas usual residence is defined as a residence for at least 12 months.

<sup>13</sup> It is highly recommended that core variables are included in the census and non-core topics are rather optional and present guides for countries that decide to include such information (UNECE 2006: 3).

Census	Citizenship	Country of birth	Census	Citizenship	Country of birth	Census	Citizenship	Country of birth
BE 1991	X	X	LV 2000*	X	X	PT 2001*	X	X
LU 1991	X	X	CH 2000*	X	X	IE 2002	X	X
ES 1991	X	X	FI 2000*	X	X	SI 2002*	X	X
CZ 1991	X	X**	SK 2001*	X	X**	PL 2002*	X	X
GR 1991	n.a.	n.a.	HU 2001*	X	X	MT 2005*	X	X
SI 1991	-	X	LU 2001*	X	X	IE 2006*	X	X
AT 1991	X	-	CZ 2001*	X	X**			
IT 1991	X	X	GR 2001*	X	-			

\*Last census prior to 2010

\*\*Residence of mother at time of birth of respondent

The inclusion of ethno-cultural characteristics is also recommended to be included in the censuses, although this information is not considered as a core topic. The main recommended information is ethnicity, language and religion (cf. UNECE 2006: 95-98).

The strength of censuses is that censuses cover the whole population and do not have to rely on samples of the population. It is thus amongst the most robust data sources. Also, census data allow for analysis of smaller groups not usually distinguishable in sample surveys and allow for detailed statistical analyses at lower geographical levels. Major disadvantages of (traditional) censuses include the high costs and their relative infrequent implementation. On both counts register based censuses are much more advantageous. However, in both traditional and register based surveys, the number of variables is usually limited to a relatively short list of key indicators – surveys thus offer much broader information.

## 4.2 Registers

**Registers** can be defined as regularly or continuously updated data systems containing information about a person's current status. The PROMINSTAT database contains more than 211 registers that hold migration related information. Most registers deal with employment (38) and income (28) issues, such as social insurance or unemployment registers. Other important registers cover the legal status of aliens – so called 'Aliens Registers' (29), general population

issues (25), matters of education (24) and asylum issues (15). The PROMINSTAT project described 18 centralised Population Registers. In some countries the information was not sufficiently available to be included in the database (SK and LV) and in some countries no centralised population registers exist (CH, DE, FR, GR, IT, MT and the UK). Although several registers have already been conducted since the 1950s, most registers evolved in the 1990s. However, the evolution of registers is an ongoing process and many registers have emerged in the 2000s and already existing registers are continuously further developed and improved.

One of the main advantages of register that they usually serve multiple administrative purposes and that there is rarely only a statistical rationale; also, information is “automatically” updated in the course of administration and they provide information at regular intervals and ad-hoc, if needed. Finally they are, in particular in comparison to surveys and censuses, relatively cheap. To some degree, the advantages are at the same time also the main disadvantages of registers. The administrative purpose of registers usually dictates the kind of information which is collected and may imply specific quality problems for variables which are linked to information not so relevant for the administrative purpose a register was set up.

### **4.3 Counts**

**Counts** can be defined as counts of events linked to persons or counts of persons at a certain reference date or period. With the increasing number of registers, counts are increasingly based on registers, thus blurring the distinction between counts and registers. In many cases, however, counts are based on a separate data collection of events (such as births, marriages, or deaths) or enumeration surveys of persons (e.g. annual number of students in a certain grade to be provided by each school). Counts can be available either as aggregate data or as individual data. In the case of the latter, information on all variables included is available at the individual level. In the former, aggregate data only contain total numbers of certain groups, or characteristics included in the count. Counts can be based on registers or on enumeration surveys. The PROMINSTAT database contains information on 254 counts. Almost 70 percent of the counts included are available as micro data on the national level. As it is the case with registers, most ongoing counts have emerged since the 1990s. The main topics or events covered by counts are demographic events like births, deaths, marriages and divorces which usually can be broken down by citizenship and country of birth. Further important topics covered by counts are education, crime and justice, asylum and refuge, migrations, legal status (residence or work permits) and citizenship acquisitions.

**Table 2: Year of introduction of ongoing registers and counts<sup>14</sup>**

Type	Year							Total
	Until 1950	1951-1960	1961-1970	1971-1980	1981-1990	1991-2000	Since 2001	
Register	2	6	13	14	34	80	37	186
Count	5	3	17	10	17	66	60	178
Total	7	9	30	24	51	146	97	364

Source: Prominstat database (Nov. 2009)

## 4.4 Surveys

**Surveys** are defined as sample-based surveys involving interviews with respondent. The main advantage of surveys is the large amount of information included (compared to registers or counts). A major disadvantage of surveys are possible biases due to sampling procedures and non-response and – which is frequently a problem in migration and integration research – the underrepresentation and low numbers of target groups. Moreover, surveys which are not explicitly considered for migration research often do not include important background information such as citizenship and country of birth as well as more detailed questions about the year of immigration, purpose of immigration, legal status, naturalisation, etc.

### 4.4.1 International surveys

There are several international surveys relevant for migration and integration research, including the European Labour Force Survey (LFS) conducted in the EU Member States, EFTA (except Liechtenstein) and Candidate Countries, the EU Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC) conducted in EU27, Turkey and Switzerland, the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) conducted in over 50 countries globally, the European Social Survey (ESS) conducted in more than 20 countries, the Eurobarometer conducted in the EU Member States, the International Social Survey Programme (ISSP) conducted in more than 40 countries around the globe, amongst others. Internationally organised surveys are particularly advantageous because of the high degree of harmonisation of statistical indicators and the resulting high degree of comparability of results between countries. However, for those surveys the problems of low sample sizes of migrants are problematic as well.

<sup>14</sup> A cross-tabulation by country is included in the annex, table 5.

### ***The Labour Force Survey (LFS)***

The LFS can be considered as the most useful international sample survey considering the coverage of non-nationals, as it appears to be least affected by the problems of underrepresentation and small numbers of migrants or non-nationals included due to its comparably large sample sizes.

The main reasons for the under-estimation of migrants in the LFS have been investigated by the European Commission in its 2008 edition of the Employment in Europe Report (European Commission 2008: 46-47, 103). The report concludes that results concerning the migrant population derived from the LFS need to be interpreted cautiously due to several limitations, as outlined in the following: a) recent migrants may not be covered well in the LFS due to delays in entering recent migrants in the sampling frames and – more generally – because persons who do not intend to stay for more than 12 month are not covered by the LFS; b) newly arrived migrants might have a higher propensity to live in collective households (hostels or communal dwellings) which are not included in the sampling frames; c) migrants' non-response rates are considerably higher than those of nationals, mainly explained by higher mobility, language problems and a possible illegal status;<sup>15</sup> small sample sizes lead to a lack of statistical reliability, particularly in countries with small numbers/ shares of migrants; and d) the LFS does not hold any information on migrants who left the country due to problems in finding appropriate employment or – vice versa – due to a successfully completed working career (European Commission 2008: 103). Further analyses are currently being carried out on this issue and so far it appears that it is especially migrants of young adult age who are underrepresented in the LFS samples (European Commission 2008: 46). Other reasons for under-representation of migrants, however, might also be traced back to the fact that random samples as such usually show a bias according to social background with lower non-response rates of middle class respondents (Diekmann 2001: 361-362). Thus due to the under-representation of migrants in the 'middle class' population (according to educational attainment cf. Münz 2008: 8 and Kraller et al. 2010: 60-61) the higher non-response rates of migrants would also stem from the composition of migrant population, namely higher shares of low as well as high skilled persons compared to native-born persons.

An important milestone regarding migration statistics has been the special LFS module<sup>16</sup> on migrants and their descendants in the 2008 survey wave which includes additional migration related question. The module included special questions on acquisition of citizenship, country of birth of each parent, length of residence, reason for migration, duration and validity of residence permit, access to labour market, qualification completed abroad and other labour market related questions.

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<sup>15</sup> Non-response rates are higher for recent migrants and for non-EU migrants.

<sup>16</sup> Commission Regulation (EC) No 102/2007 of 2 February 2007 adopting the specifications of the 2008 ad hoc module on the labour market situation of migrants and their immediate descendants, as provided for by Council Regulation (EC) No 577/98 and amending Regulation (EC) No 430/2005

The LFS can thus be considered as one of the most important sources for researching migrant populations. However, it is limited as an instrument for measuring migration stocks, although this differs between individual countries. As an instrument for measuring migration flows the LFS appears to be insufficient (cf. Marti and Rodenas 2007).

### ***Other general international surveys***

Besides the LFS there are several further internationally conducted surveys which are useful for migration research purposes. The European Union Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC), as the successor of the European Community Household Panel (ECHP) is compulsory for all EU Member States and collects ample information on income, poverty and social exclusion. However, the survey has lower sample sizes than the LFS ranging from 6,500 persons in LU to 14,500 persons in DE and consequently is more affected by the problem of low sample sizes, especially in countries with low numbers of migrants.

A comparably good coverage of migrants is provided by OECD's Programme of International Student Assessment (PISA) due to its special sampling strategy via schools and therefore low non-response rates. PISA covers students aged 15 and includes questions about the year of immigration and on migration background as well as on school performance and social background.

The major opinion surveys conducted in Europe, such as the Eurobarometer, the European Social Survey (ESS), the International Social Survey Programme (ISSP), the European Value Study (EVS), the European Election Study (EES), usually cover immigrants/ non-nationals only insufficiently, largely because of small sample sizes of about 1,000 to 2,000 persons. For example: the European Social Survey 3 (ESS3) has an average sample size of 1,925 per country and the non-nationals included in the samples are usually lower than 100 (except for DE, EL, LU and CH). In addition the shares of non-nationals are significantly lower than those reported by the statistical offices with an average difference of four percent points. As shown in Figure 1, below, the share of non-citizens is heavily under-estimated in the ESS3.<sup>17</sup>

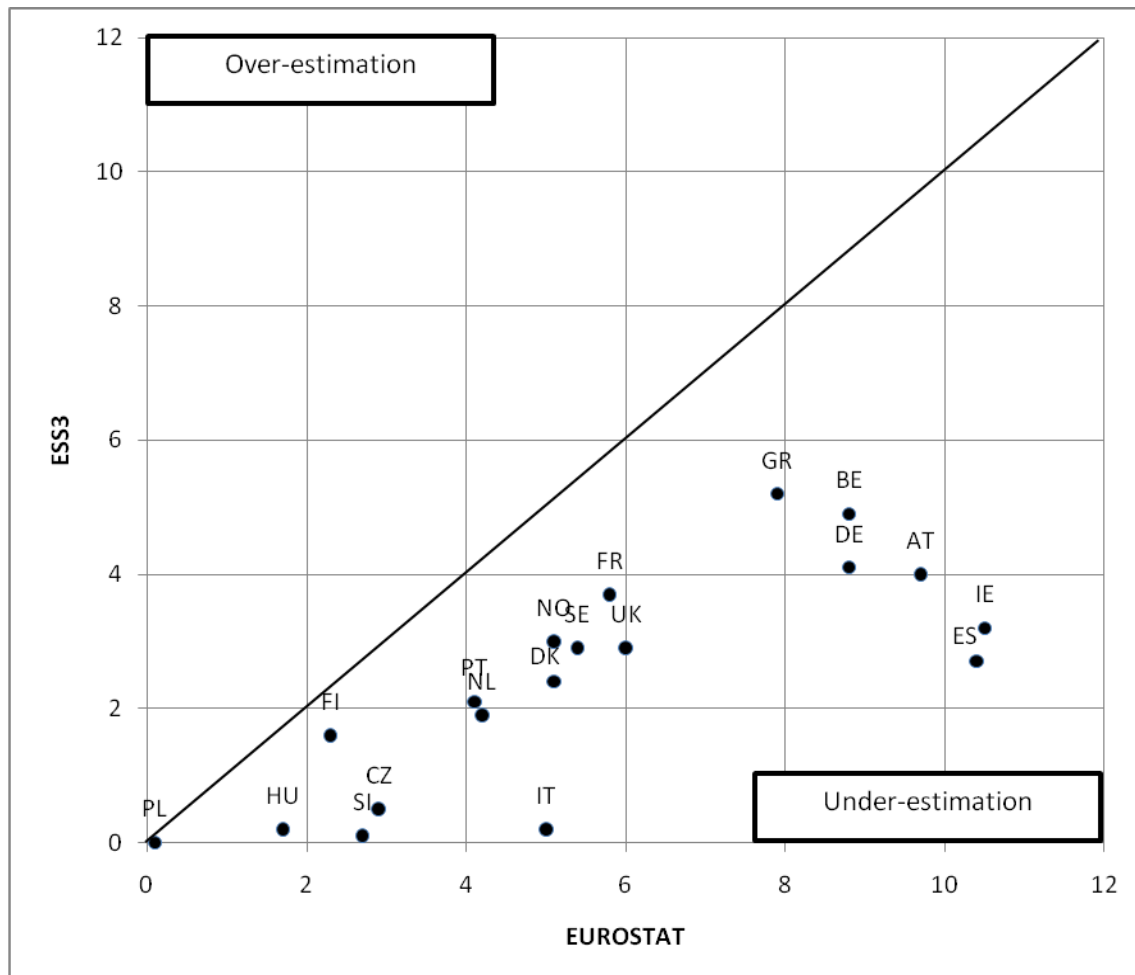
In this regard it is important to point out that the general opinion surveys are mainly used researching opinions of the general population about immigration, integration and discrimination issues. However, the usefulness of such surveys for comparing groups by citizenship is limited and analyses of such kind should be treated with caution. Important special modules included in those surveys concern racism and discrimination (Eurobarometer 47.1, 57, Special No 296, EVS 2008 and the ESS), national and ethnic identity matters (Eurobarometer 60.1, ISSP 1995 and 2004, and the ESS) and views on immigration issues (ESS1).

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<sup>17</sup> For a comparison of ESS data with administrative data from Eurostat, see also Hoffmeyer-Zlotnik & Warner 2009: 40-42.



**Figure 1: Share of non-nationals included in the European Social Survey samples compared to the share of non-nationals according to population statistics by Eurostat 2007**



Note: Calculated without design weight which would not lead to significant differences in the shares

Sources: Own calculations based on population figures provided by Eurostat database (data extracted on 19 Nov. 2009) and the ESS 3 micro data available at the Norwegian Social Science Data Services<sup>18</sup>

### ***International target surveys***

International surveys which deserve special attention are target surveys on migration, integration and discrimination issues with special target populations. For instance in 2008 the European Union Minorities and Discrimination Survey (EU-MIDIS) was conducted under the responsibility of the European Union Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA). The survey covered persons who considered themselves as belonging to certain ethnic groups which were deemed as being mostly vulnerable to discriminatory treatment and criminal victimisation. The

<sup>18</sup> See: <http://ess.nsd.uib.no/> (09 December 2009)

respondents were randomly selected with a sophisticated sampling procedure and the interviews included questions mainly focusing on discrimination experiences. Other international surveys targeting only special groups with migration background are:

- The TIES survey (*'The Integration of the European Second Generation'*) covering 'second generation' Turks, Moroccans, ex-Yugoslavs aged between 18 and 35 as well as a 'native' comparison group. The survey was conducted in eight European countries (AT, BE, FR, DE, NL, ES, SE and CH) in 2007.<sup>19</sup>
- The FP5 funded LIMITS survey (*Immigrants and Ethnic Minorities in European Cities: Life-courses and Quality of Life in a World of Limitations*) investigated the integration of immigrants and minorities in cities in Austria, Germany, the Netherlands, Portugal and Sweden through a sample survey and event history analysis. The survey covered Turks in AT, DE, NL and SE, Moroccans in NL and SE, Serbians in AT and DE, Indians in PT and Cape Verdians in NL and PT.<sup>20</sup>
- The 'Six Country Immigrant Integration Comparative Survey' (SCICS), financed and conducted by the Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin (WZB). The survey covers Turks, Moroccans and natives in AT, BE, FR, DE, NL and SE.<sup>21</sup>

#### 4.4.2 National surveys

Apart from internationally organised surveys, there are many useful surveys conducted only at the national or local level. The PROMINSTAT database currently contains around 100 surveys which are only available at the national or at a lower level. The topics mostly covered by those surveys are education, health, housing, migration, family and household and perception of foreigners. Most of the nationally conducted surveys are repeated cross-sectional surveys (trend surveys), followed by cross-sectional surveys which were carried out only once. Only seven longitudinal surveys (panel surveys) which are relevant for migration and integration research were found and described (three in FR, two in Germany, one in Switzerland and one in Spain). Longitudinal datasets which allow for analysing life histories are especially important to migration and integration research. As a good practice example serves the German Socio-Economic Panel survey. The survey – which started in the 1980s – collects information about living conditions as well as on personal characteristics and values. The survey is conducted annually and has included an additional 'Immigrant-sample' since 1994/95. Due to this additional sample of immigrants the survey became of major importance to quantitative migration and integration research in Europe.

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<sup>19</sup> See [www.tiesproject.eu](http://www.tiesproject.eu), 09 December 2009. The project has been supported by the Swiss Foundation for Population and Environment, the Volkswagen Foundation, The European Social Science Foundation and the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research. In addition, training of young researchers was facilitated by a Marie Curie Fellowship Programme supported by the European Commission.

<sup>20</sup> See <http://limits.zsi.at/index.html>, 09 December 2009

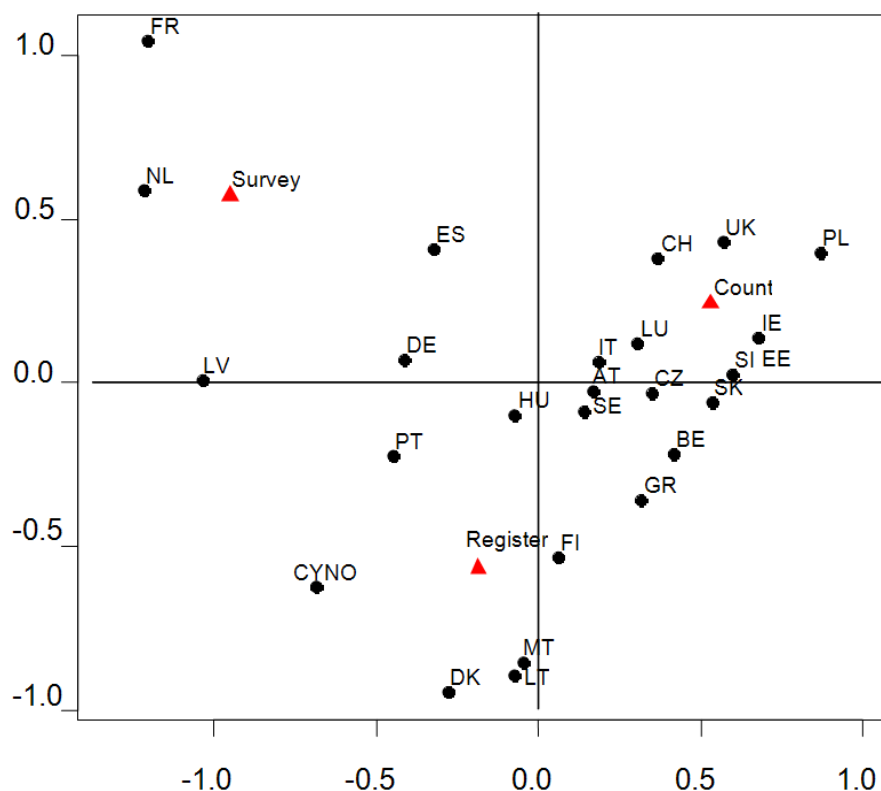
<sup>21</sup> See [http://www.wzb.eu/zkd/mit/projects/projects\\_sciics.en.htm](http://www.wzb.eu/zkd/mit/projects/projects_sciics.en.htm), 09 December 2009

## 4.5 Availability and accessibility of datasets

### 4.5.1 Availability by types of datasets

Due to different data collection policies and historical developments in the countries studied the usage of registers, counts and surveys for migration issues varies considerably. Table 3 (See Annex 1) shows the different types of datasets by country as described in the Prominstat database, whereas censuses and international surveys were not considered. Despite the data collection aims not at being exhaustive the table shows a general focus of preferred types of datasets and methods of data collection in Europe. To visualise the distribution of registers, counts and national surveys, a bivariate correspondence analysis was carried out. The results are plotted in Figure 2, below.

**Figure 2: Correspondence analysis of dataset types by countries**



Source: Own presentation based on Table 3 (see Annex 1)

The plot divides the data in two dimensions, where the first dimension (x-axis) explains about 59.2 percent of the variance of table 3 and the second dimension (y-axis) the remaining 40.8 percent. It is clearly shown that the Nordic countries extensively make use of registers for statistical purposes and prefer registers to surveys. In Malta, Cyprus and Lithuania registers prevail, though the number of datasets described is comparably low. In contrast countries like

France, the Netherlands, Spain and Germany rely more on surveys than on registers. Looking at the second dimension (X-Axis), we see that countries such as Poland, Ireland, UK and Estonia, prefer utilising statistical counts to surveys.

#### 4.5.2 Accessibility of data

There are different ways of how data are made accessible for secondary analysis by researchers or other persons interested in data. For the purpose of Prominostat we differentiated three different types of access to data: Firstly, full access to anonymised micro-data, which means full access to the data on the individual level. Secondly, some data owners only provide random samples of the complete dataset. Thirdly, data owners do not distribute their data on the micro-level but provide aggregate statistics. This means that either pre-defined or tailor-made tables are made available in spreadsheets (mostly xls- or cvs-format) for further calculations.<sup>22</sup>

The majority of the datasets described in the PROMINSTAT database are accessible to researchers, although mainly aggregate statistics are provided by the data owners. Micro data collected with surveys are mostly easily accessible to the public, whereas for census data, registers and counts aggregate data are more easily available. Access to data – most notably register and count data – is often combined with costs which makes it difficult for low budget projects and students to access certain statistical information. The following table shows the percentage of datasets which were classified as accessible to researchers.

**Table 4: Accessibility of datasets by type of dataset<sup>23</sup>**

Dataset-type	Accessibility of		
	micro- data (total)	micro-data (sample)	aggregate data
Census (N 63)	58.7 %	48.4 %	88.7 %
Register (N 198)	56.6 %	41.9 %	68.7 %
Count (N 232)	53.4 %	25.7 %	90.9 %
Survey (N 93)	66.7 %	21.7 %	40.2 %
Total (N 586)	57.2 %	33.0 %	75.1 %

Note: International surveys excluded. Different waves of the same dataset/ survey were counted only as one dataset

<sup>22</sup> The publication policies of general numbers and analyses by the data owners have not been investigated by the project.

<sup>23</sup> The classification whether or not a dataset is accessible was made by different researchers. Certain datasets classified as 'not accessible' might be actually accessible under certain circumstances, yet access is not granted easily.

The presentation above excludes internationally conducted surveys, most notably the Labour Force Survey, the EU SILC, ESS, Eurobarometer, EVS, SHARE, EES, TIES, etc. Internationally conducted surveys are commonly accessible to the public. Access to micro data of the two larger surveys, the LFS and the EU-SILC, are subject to charge. The prices of the LFS were significantly reduced as of December 2009 and the full dataset for the most recent year costs 500 Euros for the first purchase and 250 for any following purchase. In addition the micro data provided on migration background were extended.<sup>24</sup> Most of the opinion surveys are accessible free of charge. The ESS, for instance, is easily downloadable via the website of the Norwegian Social Science Data Services (NSD).<sup>25</sup> Similarly, the ISSP, the Eurobarometer and the EVS are accessible via the GESIS online database hosted by the Leibniz-Institute for Social Sciences based in Germany.<sup>26</sup> On the European level, the Council of European Social Science Data Archives (CESSDA) – an umbrella organisation for European social science data archives – serves as a harmonised data access portal to a large variety of quantitative and increasingly also qualitative datasets in Europe.<sup>27</sup> This archive allows for searching data in the different archives that are members of CESSDA through harmonised data descriptions. Additionally, as mentioned above, several international organisations and research institute are involved in data collection and compilation. The main databases are described in annex 5.

## 5. Availability and comparability in thematic areas

This section presents the main results of the thematic studies prepared in the course of the PROMINSTAT project. The sections on the different areas will summarise and briefly outline the main issues, including the research questions and data needs in each area, the main findings of the studies (focusing on existing data sources and their strengths and weaknesses as well as on general gaps and needs) and recommendations to improve the current situation.

### 5.1 Population stocks

#### ***General concepts and theoretical considerations***

Statistics on the population with a migration background is a sensitive topic. Since some categories of persons included in the definition of the population with a migration background in fact have never immigrated to the country, the term population with a foreign background is usually employed. Foreign origin can be defined in different ways and the broad concept of the population with foreign background may be identified through various criteria: country of birth, citizenship at birth and current citizenship, ethnic origin of the concerned people or similar characteristics of their parents. In a broad sense, population stock refers to all persons living in

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<sup>24</sup> See <http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/microdata/lfs> and for access to EU-SILC data see [http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/microdata/eu\\_silc](http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/microdata/eu_silc) (January 2010)

<sup>25</sup> <http://ess.nsd.uib.no/> (January 2010)

<sup>26</sup> See <http://www.gesis.org/> (January 2010)

<sup>27</sup> See <http://www.cessda.org/> (January 2010)

a certain territory at a given time. More precisely the *de facto* population is defined as the population living effectively on the territory while the *de jure* population is defined as the population living on the territory and having the legal right to do so. The latter is also called the legal population and is often the only one considered from an administrative point of view (Poulain et al., 2006). Population stock data present the situation of a given population at one point in time with size and characteristics of that population at the very precise moment.

As any international migration changes the population stock of both concerned countries, the country of origin and the country of destination, this demographic event is a key component when considering the demographic balance for both populations. To identify the total population of a given country the concept of country of usual residence is used. Usual residence, however, has different definitions: According to the Conference of European Statisticians Recommendations for the 2010 Round of Population and Housing Censuses (UNECE, 2006), the definition of the place of usual residence is *the geographic place where the enumerated person usually resides*. This may be: a) the place where he/she actually is at the time of the Census; or b) his/her legal residence; or c) his/her residence for voting or other administrative purposes. This definition only includes persons a) who have lived in their place of usual residence for a continuous period of at least twelve months before Census Day; or b) who have arrived in their place of usual residence during the twelve months before Census Day with the intention of staying there for at least one year. This definition of country of usual residence is slightly different from the one recommended by United Nations Principles and Recommendations for Population and Household Censuses, Revision 2 (United Nations, 2008) which includes also the 12-month threshold for stay in a given place but in a different way: Place of usual residence is (a) the place at which the person has lived continuously for most of the last 12 months (i.e., for at least six months and one day), not including temporary absences for holidays or work assignments, or intends to live for at least six months, or (b) the place at which the person has lived continuously for at least 12 months (not including temporary absences for holidays or work assignments), or intends to live for at least 12 months. The United Nations Recommendations on Statistics of International migration, Rev. 1, (United Nations, 1998) uses the definition of 'usual residence' for defining international migrants as "any person who changes his or her country of usual residence". For that purpose, the definition of country of usual residence is "the country in which a person lives, that is to say, the country in which he or she has a place to live where he or she normally spends the daily period of rest. Temporary travel abroad for purposes of recreation, holiday, visits to friends and relatives, business, medical treatment or religious pilgrimage does not change a person's country of usual residence."

These three sets of recommendations are not fully consistent as far as the definition of usual place of residence is concerned and accordingly gives possibility to define population stock and migration flow on different bases. However, for national statistics, to ensure the consistency between population stock and flows is the most essential point. Accordingly, there are two ways to solve the situation: either both, population stock and migrations are defined under the same

time criteria (e.g. 12 months), or both are identified according to the rules of administrative registration of persons.

In the first situation, following art 159 of the UNECE census recommendations, the total population stock includes only those persons a) who have lived in their place of usual residence for a continuous period of at least twelve months before Census Day; or b) who have arrived in their place of usual residence during the twelve months with the intention of staying there for at least one year. In the second case, the total population stock includes only the administratively registered population.

**Table 5: Possible classification of the population groups according to characteristics that refer to migration or foreign background**

		Nationals		Foreigners
		by birth	by naturalisation	
Native born	Never migrated	Native born nationals by birth who never migrated	Native born nationals by naturalization who never migrated	Native born foreigners who never migrated
	Only emigrated	Native born nationals by birth who only emigrated	Native born nationals by naturalization who only emigrated	Native born foreigners who only emigrated
	Emigrated and immigrated thereafter	Native born nationals by birth who emigrated and immigrated thereafter	Native born nationals by naturalization who emigrated and immigrated thereafter	Native born foreigners who emigrated and immigrated thereafter
Foreign born	Never migrated	Foreign born nationals by birth who never immigrated	Foreign born nationals by naturalization who never immigrated	Foreign born foreigners who never immigrated
	Only immigrated	Foreign born nationals by birth who only immigrated	Foreign born nationals by naturalization who only immigrated	Foreign born foreigners who only immigrated
	Immigrated and emigrated thereafter	Foreign born nationals by birth who immigrated and emigrated thereafter	Foreign born nationals by naturalization who immigrated and emigrated thereafter	Foreign born foreigners who immigrated and emigrated thereafter

Source: Prominostat Thematic Study on Population Stocks: Poulain & Herm (2010)

The key indicators for measuring population stocks are country of birth, current citizenship and mode of acquisition of citizenship (by birth or by naturalisation), and international migration

experience. Based on these key indicators 18 different population groups can be distinguished of which nine subgroups actually live in the country of investigations and are consequently part of the population stock (see grey cells of table 5).

### ***Main findings***

When implementing the data collection for the above mentioned concepts and definitions the following problems might occur: 1) Problems with the identification of the country of usual residence and consequently the total population of the country; 2) problems with the identification of the current citizenship and country of birth, and the relevance of population groups based on these variables; 3) problems with the identification of all international migrants and relevance of the immigrant and emigrant stocks; 4) problems with the annual update of the total population stock and all selected population groups relevant to international migration and ensuring the basic consistency between demographic figures of stocks and flows; 5) and coverage problems of all potential population groups composing the total population, including more detailed information such as different legal statuses.

The availability of statistics on population stocks relevant to international migration is based on four major types of data sources: 1) population censuses; 2) population registration systems, including local and centralised population registers; 3) other administrative registers related to foreigners (e.g. aliens' registers, residence-permit databases and asylum seekers' databases); and 4) sample surveys.

Censuses generally provide good data on the stock of the usually resident population by citizenship or country of birth, as requested by the EU Regulation, however, the good availability of such data is not given on an annual basis. Annual statistics on the country of citizenship are produced or will be produced based on population registers in Austria, Belgium, Latvia, Netherlands, Spain and the Nordic countries. Other countries (Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Portugal and Slovenia) use a combined method based on the aliens register and a calculation or estimate for nationals. For example, in the Czech Republic data on nationals are updated on the basis of statistics obtained from the administrative records of births, deaths, immigrations and emigrations and these data refer to Czech citizens permanently residing in the country. Statistics on stocks of foreigners are produced using data on residence permits valid for more than one year. As a result the annual figure on total population is produced as a sum of nationals and foreigners. A similar solution is adopted in Germany, although it does not comply with international recommendations: the stocks of nationals are estimated by adjusting population figure on the basis of the population registers, while detailed statistics on foreigners by country of citizenship are based on the Central Aliens Register (AZR). Specific methods are also applied in France (using data from the rolling census), Ireland and the United Kingdom (based on household surveys), Italy (ad hoc investigations based on local population registers) and Luxembourg (annual calculation without breakdown by age). Annual figures on the usually resident population by country of birth are usually available in countries where centralised population registers exist. Exceptions are the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland, where this variable is not included in the central register; however some improvements may be expected in



future. Some estimated figures are available in France (based on the rolling census) and in Ireland and the United Kingdom (based on surveys).

For the complete study see:

Poulain, Michel/ Herm, Anne (2010): Population stocks relevant to international migration. Prominstat Working Paper No. 11, forthcoming at: [www.prominstat.eu](http://www.prominstat.eu)

## 5.2 Migration flows

### ***General concepts and theoretical considerations***

In recent years international migration played an increasingly important role in the shaping of the population dynamics in Europe, often becoming a more significant component of population change than the natural change. An increase in the stock of foreigners and considerable problems in their integration made societies and politicians look at migration flows carefully. On the other hand, deficits of labour force on the global, regional and local labour markets, as well as the ageing of population made some entrepreneurs and policy makers look at migration as a cure to these problems. In consequence, the problem of migration became a topic of political and policy discussions, especially the question of immigration.

The developments outlined above have gradually led to an increased awareness, among researchers, planners, entrepreneurs, policy makers and politicians that there is a need for good quantitative migration flow data. For researchers, data are indispensable in a wide range of disciplines, such as demography, geography, sociology or economics, mostly to assess the developments and to make informed statements on their consequences and future developments. Planners and policy makers need data to make operational decisions concerning implementation of infrastructural and social projects and programmes addressing migration-related needs as well as to provide sound population and labour market management. Data are needed to shape migration policies.

Poorly defined, bad quality or otherwise inadequate migration data have an impact not only on official migration statistics but also on statistics of population stocks and in consequence, indirectly, demographic indicators such as fertility and mortality rates or economic performance indicators as, for example, GDP per capita.

### ***Main findings***

Based on a detailed analysis of the availability, reliability and comparability of data on international migration flows in the EU25 countries plus Norway and Switzerland it has to be concluded that internationally comparative research on migration flows in Europe is currently generally not possible. The main problem is the comparability of data, in particular the

differences in definitions and sources used in various countries and in the coverage of the statistics.

Researchers undertaking any international comparisons should carefully check the meaning of the available data and investigate different sources. Comparisons may only be attempted if the data from various countries measure the same phenomenon. If the data are not internationally comparable, any conclusions may be drawn only separately for each country, for the categories of migration flows measured in the given country.

Researchers trying to go more deeply than just total flows who are interested in various characteristics of migrants encounter not only the problem of comparability, but also the problem of lack of data. Characteristics available in most of the countries are age, sex and country of citizenship of the migrants. Information on previous or next residence is also often collected but is more problematic and may be missing. Information on the country of birth and marital status of migrants is often collected in the databases as well, but the relevant statistics (flows by country of birth or by marital status) are rarely prepared. Other important characteristics are frequently not available.

Most readily available data concerning migration flows are macro-data. The main source of these data are administrative registers, with no or a limited access to the micro-data for the researchers. As a consequence, researchers that want to go beyond the usually published statistics face the necessity of organising dedicated surveys.

Clearly, improvement of international migration statistics requires international cooperation. In Europe, considerable progress is envisaged when the data prepared according to the EU Regulation on international migration statistics begin to be published. It should be noted that the last years brought in an evident improvement in migration statistics on international migration flows in some countries. In our opinion, this is a direct consequence of the preparations for the EU Regulation. Notably, Bulgaria and Greece started to provide flow data to Eurostat (Greece only for immigration), and Estonia will probably follow as its quality of data significantly improved and it began to publish statistics on international migration flows in 2009. Slovenia has changed its definitions and adopted the one year duration of stay rule in migration statistics. However, the scope for further improvement is still wide, both in the field of the international comparability of data as well as in data availability.

### ***Recommendations***

In order to facilitate interdisciplinary research complex multidimensional data are needed. In addition to the statistics on migration flows specified in the EU Regulation, statistics describing socio-economic characteristics of migrants are needed. The most sought-after variables include reason of migration/purpose of stay, level/years of schooling, profession, employment status and salaries in the origin and destination country, source of household's income, migration history. The extension of the data on characteristics of migrants by including both direct questions about reasons of their migration and their economic and labour market characteristics

would allow to replace quite imprecise proxy variables with actual explanatory variables. Perhaps a sensible solution is to create a pan-European longitudinal data collection focused on migration.

Statistical offices should investigate the possibility of linking existing administrative data sources to retrieve missing information. Researchers need better access to the anonymised micro-data from the administrative sources. As far as international co-operation is concerned, wider exchange of information between receiving and sending countries may be helpful.

For the complete study see:

Kupiszewska, Dorota/ Kupiszewski, Marek/ Martí, Mónica/ Ródenas, Carmen (2010): Possibilities and limitations of comparative quantitative research on international migration flows. Prominostat Working Paper No. 04, available at: [www.prominostat.eu](http://www.prominostat.eu)

### **5.3 Legal status of immigrants and their descendants**

#### ***General concepts and theoretical considerations***

The measurement of the legal status of migrants is problematic. There is sometimes disagreement, or confusion, about the meaning of terms related to the legal residence status of migrants, particularly in the context of the European Union. For example, while the European Commission defines a residence permit any document that allows a foreigner to stay in a country for more than three months, and a long-term residence permit as one granted to third country nationals who have resided legally and continuously for five years in a Member State, individual members may issue short or long-term visas rather than permits as documents allowing entry or stay, and long-term permits are typically called permanent residence permits at the national level. Furthermore, legality is not a static condition: migrants are subject to movements in and out of legality over time, due, for example, to changes in immigration laws and regularisations, or to changes in personal conditions (e.g. marriage, acquisition of refugee status, expiry of a visa), and legal migrants can change the immigration category or type of document permitting stay, for example, from student to worker, or from temporary to permanent residence permit. The following data are of interest for measuring the legal status of immigrants: the type of permit/document that allows the migrant to stay; the length of permitted stay; the reason for granting permission to stay; and possibly all the other conditions attached to the permit (e.g., the right or not to work). Furthermore, data that capture changes in immigration status or category are of interest as well. Generally, three broad research areas related to the legal status of immigrants can be distinguished: i) the measurement of the size and the types of legal migration; ii) the analysis of the socio-economic determinants and consequences of the legal status of migrants; iii) the assessment of the impact of migration and asylum policies on the flows of legal migrants and asylum seekers.

Accordingly three main groups of statistics/indicators can be identified: 1) the Community statistics on residence permits and those on international protection (Articles 6 and 4 of Regulation (EC) No 862/2007, respectively), including aggregate statistics produced by European countries using information collected via administrative sources, such as, the national alien registers and the residence permit databases; 2) migration/asylum policy indexes and indexes that translate into numerical values qualitative information concerning the adoption of specific migration/asylum policies or changes in such policies, across countries and time; and 3) micro-level survey based indicators that can be constructed using information collected through survey data, and that provide possibly more detailed information about the legal status of migrants, than simple 'legal or illegal' binary type of information.

### ***Main findings and recommendations***

The findings in relation to the production and use of the residence permit and asylum statistics, point to the need for more transparency and a better sharing of information concerning the national alien registers or alternative data source that is used in each country, as well as the national definitions adopted in the construction of the relevant indicators, since several countries do not comply with the harmonised Eurostat definition in the construction of the Community statistics under concern. Also, more coordination between the key actors involved, namely, the institutions owning the registers, the national statistical offices and Eurostat, is necessary in order to maximise the statistical use of the information that is maintained in these databases. With reference to the production and use of policy indexes, the existing research in the area of assessing the impact of migration and asylum policies on legal migration and asylum flows is still very limited, particularly in the context of the EU: the existing policy-related databases, which are necessary in order to construct such indexes, are currently only limited to the OECD members and need to be updated, both in terms of country coverage and time coverage. More quantitative work can be done in the area of assessing the impact of regularisations, both on the aggregate flows of immigrants and at the micro-level on the socio-economic conditions of the immigrants. There exist some data sources that could be used to explore these issues, and more data should be collected that interrogate regularised migrants on their living conditions before and after a regularisation programme. Finally, in the area of migration and non-migration purposive surveys that could be used to analyse issues related to the socio-economic conditions of migrants in the EU, the study identifies and suggests a number of possible data sources worth exploring, including, most notably, the European Union Labour Force Survey (LFS). In fact, in 2008 the LFS contained an ad-hoc module on the labour market situation of migrants and their immediate descendants, which was administered in all the EU27 members, as well as in Norway and Switzerland. The ad-hoc module of the LFS contains variables that provide detailed information about the legal status of migrants, as well as a number of variables that relate to the integration of the migrants in the countries of destination, which should allow for the analysis of the socio-economic conditions and integration of immigrants in the EU based on the type of their legal status.

For the complete study see:

Castaldo, Adriana (2010): Thematic Study on Data on the Legal Status of Immigrants in the EU. Prominstat Working Paper No. 07, available at: [www.prominstat.eu](http://www.prominstat.eu)

## 5.4 Work permits

At a first glance, data on work permits from administrative databases appear to be well comparable across EU and EEA countries. However, taking a closer look at the data various differences emerge. As it is the case with other administrative data, work permit data are a by-product of administrative procedures, and thus reflect different administrative and legal systems.

Work permit data are important for the assessment of the number of third country nationals in the labour market in case the data are managed and recorded systematically. In countries where samples of immigrants in surveys are rather small, work permit data seem to be the most reliable source of registered immigration to a country. The usage and importance of this kind of data varies between countries and is also related to the migration history of countries (and the countries' related experiences with immigration movements). Countries with long immigration history do not use work permit data anymore, although such countries made use of such data mainly at the beginning of major immigration flows (mostly in 1960s and 1970s in Europe). Countries facing major immigration flows only recently still use this source of information as a primary source for measuring registered employment of non-nationals and immigrant flows. The connection between work and residence permits mostly depends on different national dynamics of immigration flows and developments of immigration policy. The more immigration is constructed as a temporary phenomenon, the less connection exists between work and residence permits. However, when it comes to long-term immigration employment and residence are usually combined, which is also in line with the EU policy on so called Blue Card.

Major advantages of work permit data are that (1) such datasets can cover specific sub-groups of the population more effectively than general household sample surveys; (2) the costs are usually significantly lower as the statistics are collected within an existing administrative database system; and (3) administrative data are usually more reliable than surveys and provide better coverage.

Major drawbacks of using work permit data are that (1) data capture and processing is sometimes very fragmented and statistical procedures are often not applied consistently at all levels; (2) it is difficult to aggregate administrative records at the individual level to larger units such as the family or household; (3) there is a lack of usage of standard classifications and coding systems; (4) administrative forms are sometimes only partially computerised; and (5) statistical information from administrative data sources are not published frequently.

For the complete study see:

Grabowska-Lusińska, Izabela (2010): Thematic Study on Work Permit Data. Prominstat Working Paper No. 05, available at: [www.prominstat.eu](http://www.prominstat.eu)

## 5.5 Citizenship

Annually around 600,000 persons acquire citizenship of their country of residence in the European Union. Considering that persons partly accept high costs and cumbersome administrative procedures in order to obtain their new passport, questions on the determinants and consequences for the individuals arises. However, only a few studies have dealt with the impact of citizenship acquisition on the individuals' lives and thus not much can be said on the general meaning and implications of citizenship acquisition by immigrants and their descendents. Since the beginning of the new millennium mainly economists have analysed implications of citizenship acquisition, studying the relationship of earnings or labour market participation and the status of citizenship. The results of these analyses differ between countries, which can be explained by different immigration populations, different legal frameworks as well as different data sources available. Yet, besides socio-economic determinants and consequences of naturalisation, change of citizenship also concerns issues of political participation and further social areas.

The major challenge of quantitative research is to disentangle the determinants from the consequences of citizenship acquisition. Consequently, time-dependent models need to be calculated taking into account the situation before citizenship acquisition and afterwards. Hence, longitudinal data are required to be able to answer questions on the causal implications of citizenship acquisition, namely which factors influence the likelihood that non-nationals take up the citizenship of their country of residence and what is the impact of the new citizenship status (considering the biased selection of new citizens). Such data are mainly found in administrative and statistical labour market registers as well as in surveys including longitudinal or retrospective data.

### ***Main findings and recommendations***

Registers including long time data on labour market careers are maintained in most countries. Such registers usually include long time data on social insurance or employment careers covering the whole population. The main drawbacks of such registers might be unreliable or unavailable information on citizenship acquisition as well as lack of additional variables, which are not essential for administrative purposes, such as information on migration history, education etc. Major differences in the registers hardly allow for cross-national comparisons.

Detailed information on naturalisations is scarcely collected in international surveys. In this regard, the ad-hoc module of the LFS in 2008 is considered as the first systematic data collection on the number of naturalised persons residing in the EU. Although the EU-SILC contains information on dual citizenship, there is no standard question on acquisition of citizenship collected in all participating countries. Several surveys conducted at the national level serve as a good source for measuring implications of citizenship acquisition, most notably the German Socio-Economic Panel survey.

Data on socio-economic characteristics and citizenship acquisition are most easily available, whereas data in other areas of citizenship acquisition, including issues related to political, civic and social integration, are rarely available in Europe. Frequent or automatic updates of the citizenship status of persons in several national registers as well as the inclusion of questions on the date of citizenship acquisition in several surveys would considerably improve the opportunities for studying the meaning of citizenship.

For the complete study see:

Reichel, David (2010): Measuring determinants and consequences of citizenship acquisition. Prominstat Working Paper No. 15, forthcoming at: [www.prominstat.eu](http://www.prominstat.eu)

## 5.6 Employment

### ***General concepts and theoretical considerations***

Labour market inclusion or employment integration of migrants and their descendants and ethnic minorities has a high priority in the member states of the European Union. The possibility of conducting comparative quantitative research on employment integration within the union is also high on the agenda. To be gainfully employed in the labour market is generally seen as one of the key indicators of economic integration and hence for social integration of the individual. Besides, employment integration is an important factor measuring general societal integration, like political and recreational participation of the individual as well as it has an effect on housing segregation. Moreover, employment integration is an important factor for society's wealth and development, since high general employment increases community revenue through the tax system. Employment integration for all members of society – irrespective of their national, ethnic or migrant background – is of crucial importance for combating inequality in the labour market and hence society at large.

The Prominstat study on employment considers employment as the primary indicator and unemployment and occupation as sub-indicators. The state of being employed for pay or having a paid job in the formal labour market can be defined as the basic definition of the primary indicator for employment. Unemployment can be defined as the state when an individual is not

employed but is able to work and is currently seeking work in the formal labour market. Finally, the sub-indicator occupation describes what kind of work the individual is doing on the job.

The majority of the studies dealing with labour market integration on the three indicators presented above, and especially economic migration research, use the human capital approach as basis for explaining differences between groups. The main idea behind this theory is that migration is seen as an investment by the individual and associated with costs and benefits. The potential migrant moves if benefits exceed costs. Different individuals with different prerequisites acquire different returns, in turn, different propensities to migrate. In empirical work, individual characteristics, like age, sex, marital status, education, occupational- and language skills, country of birth and citizenship, race or ethnic minority status are the most common variables used to explain the difference in labour market integration. Although these studies mainly have the earnings or other types of income of the individual as main indicator of labour market integration, since the middle of the 1990s an increasing number of studies on employment, unemployment and occupational mobility can be discerned. Studies on the employment situation of immigrants over the last few decades show a varied picture for different immigrant groups and for different host countries. Many of these studies are conducted by economists and to some lesser degree by quantitative sociologists. Most of them are based on a supply side perspective, but over time an increasing number of studies include a number of contextual and structural factors in their analysis, or in other words, use a more “multidisciplinary” approach, where both individual characteristics as well as group level and society level factors as well as institutional factors are included in the analysis. This is the case especially when two or more countries or regions are included for comparison in the study. Economic demand side factors, like labour market segmentation, sector crowding, ethnic concentration, ethnic networks, attitudes towards immigrants, search behaviour, temporary employment, settlement policies towards refugees and citizenships policies affecting immigrants, refugees, ethnic groups have shown to have an effect on labour market attachment and employment integration of individuals.

### ***Main findings and recommendations***

Based on an analysis of the accessibility and the quality of data in the countries covered by Prominstat it has to be stated that it is still a long way to go in order to get comparative data on labour market integration. This incomparability depends on several different factors.

The census is the most important source for research on economic integration in several of the countries involved in the PROMINSTAT project. Extensive use of registers for employment related research is also made in several European countries, especially in the Nordic countries. However, although all registers include information on the citizenship of the persons included, information on the country of birth is missing in almost half of the registers important for employment research which were described for Prominstat. Information on country of birth or citizenship of the parents of the persons included in the registers is found only in registers in Sweden, Denmark, Norway and the Netherlands. Surveys are of high importance for economic research in all countries, yet a few countries, most notably France, almost exclusively depend on surveys for the production of statistics.



The best option for comparative studies is the Labour Force Survey, which is already the most important source for comparison on employment on the EU level. However, the sample is currently too small in many of member states in order for this dataset to be useful for studies on employment integration. It is recommended to put more effort on improving the quality of the data collected with this tool instead of trying to improve the different national datasets.

For the complete study see:

Bevelander, Pieter/ Hagström, Mirjam (2010): Thematic Study on Employment. Prominstat Working Paper No. 2, available at: [www.prominstat.eu](http://www.prominstat.eu)

## 5.7 Income

### ***General concepts and theoretical considerations***

Information on the income of an individual or household can be based on a number of sources, including earnings, benefits, interest of capital and so on. Consequently, several sources of income can be seen as indicators of immigrants' integration or assimilation. Common indicators on income allow for easier comparisons of existing policies between member states on issues related to immigrant and ethnic minority integration. Important indicators, domains, sub-topics or concepts on the income concern earnings on the one hand and transfers on the other.

Earnings are generally defined as the income from work/ employment in the regular labour market by an individual. The earnings level of a particular population group is the average earnings of this population group. In tax-registers and statistical records, the earnings of an individual are normally based on what an individual has earned through work per year. Earnings are based on two components, including the hourly, weekly or monthly wage an individual obtains for his/her work as well as the number of hours, weeks or months, a person has worked. This basic indicator can be seen as a fundamental indicator of integration since it measures the financial possibilities for the material living condition of an individual or a certain group, such as immigrants. The earnings level of a group as an indicator of the integration process in the formal labour market and is perceived, after employment, as the second step towards labour market inclusion or integration. More concepts in relation to income are wage rates, wage structure, minimum wages, wage gap, wage discrimination, household income, income inequality and poverty level.

Transfer (payments) concern the redistribution of income in the market system. These payments are considered to be non-exhaustive because they do not directly absorb resources or create output. Examples of certain transfer payments include welfare (financial aid), early retirement pensions, age pensions, disability pensions and cash benefits, health insurance, unemployment insurance, unemployment cash benefits, cash labour market assistance, study

loans, study benefits, but also social security benefits, and government subsidies for certain businesses (firms). Given the 'level' of the welfare state, the European Union countries differ in what kind of transfers are provided for as well as the level of provision. Also the financing can be different; some transfers are funded through taxes, whereas others are financed through insurances.

In relation to immigration, transfers are of particular importance since a higher level of certain transfers, for example unemployment benefits and early retirement among immigrants could indicate a weaker labour market integration of immigrants in general. At the same time, transfers can also be seen as investment for future revenues when immigrants show higher transfers in study loans or study benefits and parental leave payments.

### ***Main findings***

The economic situation of an individual from an integration perspective is not as well-covered in the statistical production of the countries involved in the PROMINSTAT project as for example the field of employment is. There are a handful of countries that take income data from administrative registers. These registers are good sources for integration research on income when it is possible to link the data to relevant background variables. In most countries, however, sample surveys or censuses are the only source of income data.

Only a few countries collect information on income of the population through traditional censuses (e.g. in PL), whereas in countries which implement register-based censuses data on income are more often available (e.g. FI or DK). Registers including the income of individuals are mainly tax registers or social security registers, which are available in several countries. However, the possibilities of linking those registers to other registers, in order to obtain additional information, as well as the information contained on migration background is limited in many countries. National surveys collecting information on income are especially available in countries where such information cannot be easily obtained from registers (such as in France). Concerning international statistics, the EU-SILC is the main tool collecting information on income in the EU. However, the sample sizes of immigrants included in the survey remain a challenge.

The background variables influence the international comparability of the statistics on income. Citizenship is the most common variable available in the datasets of the PROMINSTAT database. Citizenship is, however, only a formal marker and shows the legal bond to a country and it is dependent on the naturalisation laws of each country. More information indicating migration background would be desirable for researching income integration of immigrants. Country of birth is considered as a better indicator for integration research, although in some countries the country of birth might not correspond to the present state borders. Moreover, descendents of immigrants are not included when simply using the country of birth of individuals. The large variety of background variables and the different definitions of the variables in question make comparisons between the countries in the EU difficult without a thorough understanding of the variables used. There are also many countries that lack datasets

that include both background variables and variables related to income and transfers. It is the overall lack of data which presents the main problem for comparative studies on income and integration in the EU.

For the complete study see:

Bevelander, Pieter/ Hagström, Mirjam (2010): Thematic Study on Income. Prominstat Working Paper No. 14, forthcoming at: [www.prominstat.eu](http://www.prominstat.eu)

## 5.8 Health

### ***General concepts and theoretical considerations***

There are numerous health issues related to migration including communicable and non-communicable diseases, maternal and child health, work accidents and psychological problems. The migratory process as such as well as the economic and social conditions of migrants can have a negative impact on migrants' health. Many of the migrants' health problems relate to the specific features of health care utilisation.

The problems related to migrants' health and health care data can be summarized as follows:

1) Medical research uses homogenous samples, where the specificity of ethnic minorities and migrants does not appear; 2) migrants may have lower response rates in epidemiological and social surveys; 3) monitoring undocumented immigrants is difficult or even impossible; 4) measuring equity and the impact of migrant's situation in the quality of care is complicated; 5) recording ethnicity in clinical records can be illegal or politically sensitive and perceived as a discriminatory practice; 6) the language and terminology used in surveys may have different meaning for groups of migrants.

### ***Main findings and recommendations***

There is no real possibility for European cross sectional comparative studies in the field of migration and health. There are two important sources that can provide stratified data satisfying the needs of migration research: 1) Nationally representative data from routine health records (or data on mortality) linked with other relevant sources of information on the country's population and 2) EU cross national surveys related to health and social issues, if the sampling is appropriate and the surveys include indicators for migration analysis.

The following recommendations to EU Member States can be made:

- to develop the organisational base responsible for the collection, processing and analysis of data, including the implementation of the EU cross-national surveys and further analysis of existing data related to migration and health;

- to establish the regulatory framework and allocate resources for appropriate system development (confidentiality, data linkage);
- to increase funding and collaboration at the European level between national research centres to develop research techniques with focus on methodological development to allow the inclusion of data on migrants in national and European information systems;
- to support building the evidence base for further development of targeted policies and interventions, to identify specific entry points for policy action and adequately monitor and evaluate programmes addressing the health of migrants.

For the complete study see:

Juhász, Judit / Makara, Péter/ Taller, Ágnes (2010): Possibilities and limitations of comparative research on international migration and health. Prominostat Working Paper No. 09, available at: [www.prominostat.eu](http://www.prominostat.eu)

## 5.9 Political participation

### ***General concepts and theoretical considerations***

What precisely belongs to the domain of politics and hence should be considered political participation is not without contention. There are several ways and degrees of participating in politics which do not necessarily need to include only conventional political participation such as voting or standing for elections. For the purpose of the analysis of data availability, political participation can be defined as participation in political procedures, structures and institutions of the political system at the local, national or supranational level. In so doing, a broad understanding of politics and civic participation is understood as an important dimension of the involvement in the political and democratic life of a country. Based on this broad conceptualisation, five types of political participation can be distinguished:

- Voting behaviour and political preferences (type A)

Type A includes active participation in elections. Quantitative data on this type of political participation are general information on voting behaviour and political preferences.

- Party membership, standing for election and holding political office (type B)

This type of political participation includes party membership, active party politics, standing for elections and holding a political office. Type B represents a much stronger form of political participation than type A.

- Non-electoral and less conventional forms of political participation (type C)

Type C concerns the exertion of influence through non-parliamentarian means and includes a variety of activities such as participating in demonstrations, boycotting of certain products, writing letters to newspapers and so on. Less conventional forms of political participation can be of major importance for non-nationals without suffrage. The primary data sources on such activities surveys are surveys with immigrants and natives.

- Labour union participation (type D)

Significant political participation is exercised in labour relations, most notably through participation in trade unions. Important data on migrants' involvement in trade unions are membership statistics by citizenship or country of birth and union representation by persons with migration background. Additionally, information on participation in picketing or striking is important for this type of political participation.

- Civic participation (type E)

Type D is defined as the general participation in the civil society of the receiving country, including church memberships or attendance and membership in ethnic or mainstream associations. This type of participation can be measured with statistics on association membership by country of birth or citizenship and committee membership in associations.

### ***Main findings and recommendations***

Political participation is related to a variety of factors, including the structural integration of migrants (such as demographic characteristics, socio-economic status, and residential stability), social capital, individual political characteristics (such as political socialisation and attitudes towards politics,) and political opportunity structures.

The analysis of available data suggests that only few countries collect data on all five types of immigrants' political participation, while available data in some countries does not permit such an analysis at all. However, we also find that the majority of countries do collect some of the core type A data. An improvement of type A data might thus be a sensible first step in increasing our knowledge on political participation of migrants and their descendants. To gain a fuller understanding of patterns of political and civic participation of immigrants, however, systematic and comprehensive collection of all A, B, C, D and E data would be ideal.

What data is available and which is not, however, is also an expression of political opportunity structures and the civic and political culture of individual countries. European countries differ widely in respect to the opportunities offered to non-nationals and migrants more generally to participate in political and civic activities, but they also differ in terms of unionisation or the relationship between civil society organisations and the state. Finally, statistics do certainly reflect political priorities, but their quality and scope also depend on financial means. Not all EU member states are equally able to build and maintain structures for the collection of extensive social statistic. In respect to political participation, improving the European Social Survey as the coverage and sampling of migrants is concerned, might provide some middle ground.

For the complete study see:

Doomernik, Jeroen/ Kraler, Albert/ Reichel, David (2010) Quantitative Data on Immigrants' Political Participation in Europe, Prominstat Working Paper No. 08, available at [www.prominstat.eu](http://www.prominstat.eu)

## 5.10 Irregular migration

### ***General concepts and theoretical considerations***

There are many definitions and terms related to the phenomenon of irregular migration. Such terms and definitions indicate or describe violations of laws/regulations/rules managing the entry, residence or work of non-nationals in a country. Yet, there are often several definitions behind the same term and vice versa several terms exist which describe the same phenomenon. Two further problems are that many countries do not have an official definition of irregular migration in their national legislation and, if available, the translation of existing terms from national languages into English causes problems as well. Finally, irregular migration cannot be seen as a static but as a dynamic concept, since a person's legal status might change several times in the course of her or his life.

In the main, irregular migration concerns entry, residence and work of non-nationals. Thus, generally irregular migrations can be defined as crossing borders uninspected or without required documents; residing in a country without any valid residence permit/visa; or performing work without required permits or in breach with them. Besides the major difficulties in defining irregular migration (on the national and even more on the international level), irregular migration is difficult to measure due to its, in principle, hidden character. Consequently, statistics on irregular migration mainly deal with indicators which serve as a basis for estimates of the 'real' size of the phenomenon.

### ***Main findings and recommendations***

Most national datasets that are available are administrative datasets held by the governments, including information on various enforcement measures rather than on irregular migration process itself. Such datasets mainly hold information on migrants apprehended for illegal border crossing, illegal residence or illegal work and on administrative decisions such as expulsions, removals etc. Commonly, such datasets are treated as confidential by state administration which results in a low level of accessibility, lack of meta-information available and generally low knowledge about these datasets. Furthermore, such datasets cover only an unknown and specific segment of irregular migrant population (i.e. those apprehended) and it has to be emphasised once again that they give evidence only on selected aspects of the irregular migration process.

On the other hand, there are very few datasets containing information on the total population of certain groups of migrants with an irregular status, their structures, characteristics or size, such as datasets of regularisation programmes or certain large surveys (e.g. the Italian SUD survey or Spanish National Survey of Immigrants 2007). Moreover, the Greek census and Spanish Municipal Population Register are considered to include several migrants without legal residence although the legal status of migrants cannot be determined in the data.

In addition, several international bodies collect data and statistics on irregular migration at the European level (including the European Commission with its CIREFI/EIL statistics or FRONTEX and the ICMPD with its yearbook). In recent years a growing emphasis on harmonisation of irregular migration data at the international level can be observed, mainly concerning the establishment of unified and clear definitions. Specifically the data collection from the European Commission has substantially improved in the recent years. The limited accessibility, lack of meta-information and aggregation represent the crucial weaknesses of irregular migration data collections at the international level.

It is highly recommended to remove the restrictions on the accessibility of irregular migration datasets on the national level as well as the EU level. Anonymised microdata including a rich palette of variables on the context of especially illegal stay and illegal border crossing should be made available to researchers. This could highly increase the information value of the datasets as well as open possibilities for comparative research. Moreover, it should be made clear that most of the datasets in question are on enforcement measures rather than on irregular migration as such which along with accessible meta-information on the datasets could avoid misinterpretations that sometimes occur, especially in media.

In general, it has to be concluded that there is a lack of datasets on irregular migration, most notably non-enforcement datasets are scarcely available. Large surveys (including population census or register) that would also cover irregular migrants should be supported and legal status of their respondents should be made discernible. Simultaneously, where possible, states should improve their regularization datasets (e.g. a separate database on applicants for regularization could represent an important improvement) as they represent a unique source of information on migrants and their (il)legal status.

Furthermore, it is recommended that available data should be exploited more. It is desirable that statistics on asylum, apprehension and return are combined in order to create specific indicators that would not only better monitor state practices in the field of irregular migration but also shed light on migrants' strategies. Finally, as the fight against illegal immigration represent a core priority of the common EU migration policy, it is desirable that countries accept a common (legal) concept and understanding of illegal migration, including common statistical concepts in this area.

The main international databases on irregular migration issues (most notably EIL statistics and the Frontex data collection) completely neglect the topic of irregular employment of third country

nationals which, however, can be considered as an important issue in the field of irregular migration. Irregular employment of third country nationals belongs to topics that have recently deserved a high policy attention which resulted in adoption of directive on sanctions and measures against employment of illegally staying third-country nationals (Directive 2009/52/EC). Although this directive requires the Member States to provide some data on the number and results of inspections carried out, it seems that comparable statistical data on this topic are currently not available and thus a reliable tool for monitoring EU policies in this regard is missing. Hence, an improvement of statistical data collection on illegal employment is highly recommended.

For the complete study see:

Drbohlav, Dušan/ Medová, Lenka /Kraler, Albert/ Baldwin-Edwards, Martin (2010) Thematic Study on Irregular Migration, Prominstat Working Paper No. 13, forthcoming at [www.prominstat.eu](http://www.prominstat.eu)

## 5.11 Housing

### ***General concepts and theoretical considerations***

Access to decent and affordable housing constitutes a clear aspect in the successful integration of immigrants in European societies. It has a direct impact on quality of life, health, social interactions and incorporation in other domains, such as education and the labour market. There is a general consensus in the European literature verifying the disadvantage faced by immigrants and minority groups, in general, in housing, both in social housing and the private housing market. Despite some positive advances, the importance of exclusion and discrimination in this domain are persistent in nature, revealed in the similarities that occur across different European countries.

In summary, the kind of data needed to assess housing performance and residential patterns of immigrant and minority groups can be summarised by the following topics: (1) access to housing, (2) affordability, (3) suitability, (4) adequacy, (5) tenure, (6) housing type, (7) residential location and segregation (concentration versus dispersal), and (7) residential mobility trends after initial settlement.

To a large degree, indicators on these issues capture migrants' situations only at one point in time without considering developments over time. Given that it has been clearly documented by studies in several European countries that in general minority and migrant groups tend to occupy the least sought-after segment of the housing market, it is import to understand the processes and constraints that have resulted in this situation. Thus, studying the housing



careers of certain groups reveals the dynamics involved over an individual's or group's life course and the interaction with wider social and structural processes to be understood.

### ***Main findings***

All countries provide some data on the housing situation of migrants and minority groups allowing for studying housing outcomes and overall patterns of ethnic geography. There is, however, a clear lack of data on refugees, asylum-seekers, new labour migrants and other important minorities such as Travellers and Roma.

In addition, the data available hardly allow for studying changes over time or market processes and their impact on processes of social exclusion, inequality, discrimination or access to housing. A few exceptions are the housing surveys conducted in the Netherlands and France which provide more 'experience-related' variables. Despite the clear predominance of the type of variables that measure housing outcomes, such as tenure, house conditions, house type, numbers of rooms, etc, these variables are frequently inconsistent across PROMINSTAT countries. Thus, whilst studies can be conducted at the national level in each country direct comparison of particular variables is often very difficult.

Indeed, particular indicators crucial for any assessment of the housing position of migrants and minorities are missing. Indicators measuring access to housing appear to be largely absent and in the majority of countries this can only be inferred by comparisons between the tenure statuses of the majority and migrants or minority groups, which is insufficient. Furthermore, data on affordability is absent in the data available in most countries. Some countries collect information about this through surveys such as Sweden, and the Netherlands and Portugal among a few others collect information about costs in the census. Residential mobility is also a particularly difficult area to research, and information on this is scarce, due to the lack of longitudinal micro data. The possibility of linking datasets in Denmark and the Netherlands is more conducive to the kind of data needed to study the aforementioned indicator. Certainly, the fact that data in these countries are reported to be up-to-date and allow for linking with other datasets means there are greater opportunities to produce longitudinal statistical data. Similarly, the breadth of background variables available in these countries allow for important comparisons along the lines of different differentials and not merely the particular background variable that defines an individual as a migrant or member of a minority group.

Many countries rely solely on the census which has advantages due to the fact that it is easily accessible and subject to quality testing and procedures that are increasingly defined both at the European and International level. Most of the PROMINSTAT countries have population or alien registers. The usefulness of those registers for studying the housing situation is, however, rather limited. Indeed, the only purpose to which they can be applied is the mapping of settlement patterns of different migrant and minority groups. The potential for direct comparability of these registers is restricted due to the fact that the data is available at different spatial scales, largely depending on the specific administrative units employed in differing national contexts. Surveys provide an important source of information in several countries,

although quality and availability varies immensely. Indeed, in countries such as France surveys constitute the principal means to collect data on housing. Other countries, such as the Netherlands and the United Kingdom, produce high quality survey data that clearly complements registers in the former and the traditional census in the latter. Other countries, such as Denmark, rely more on administrative registers due to the high cost of surveys. Clear advantages include the type of data that can be collected by surveys.

### ***Recommendations***

Internationally comparative research on housing and residential patterns is difficult due to the inconsistencies in definitions and variables employed to measure housing positions and outcomes. Furthermore, there is a problem of outdated data as well as data coverage. As a means to make definitions more uniform and permanently comparable housing topics in the population census of each Member State may be considered to improve the overall comparability of data. Regulation (EC) No 763/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on population and housing censuses obliges all EU countries to conduct a population census in 2011, where precise topics are specified. A strategy to ensure that census data is more useful in the domain of housing and immigration is to include such topics permanently in all future censuses conducted by Member States. There are of course other disparities at the national level such as the frequency with which the census is conducted and the methodology applied. The latter point is probably the most challenging given that there is no scope to add additional variables to register-based censuses, this could be achieved by a complimentary survey or through the collection of more ample information in administrative registers. This is particularly pertinent given the tendency observed in several countries to change data collection practices to be register based. On a positive note, this evolution is likely to result in higher quality and more representative data. The importance of accessibility is important to outline here, more efforts should be made to provide anonymised micro data to researchers that can be cross tabulated with other variables collected. A further recommendation is in reference to the European Union Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC.) This survey has the potential to produce comparative European data on housing. The quality and breadth of this data is notable, however, there are some gaps, important from a policy perspective, which this survey could seek to address. For example, access to housing can only be determined by a comparison of tenure patterns between native and immigrants and direct questions on this issue should be added. Potential information on mobility or direct impacts of any of the collected variables on the propensity to move is also lacking. However, more important is the question of sampling and small sample sizes. Relating to the types of immigrants covered it is obvious in almost all countries that more attention needs to be paid to the production of good quality data on other groups, such as the Roma population, refugees and asylum seekers and more challenging on illegal migrants. Although detailed and frequent longitudinal surveys are ideal to supplement census data, this may not be immediately possible or practical given the limitations that policy-makers and researchers face in collecting reliable and representative data.

A list of core variables on the main topics described above (see for a detailed list Prominstat Working Paper No. 06) should be collected. Such a data collection would improve the assessment immigrants' housing conditions considerably.

For the complete study see:

Fonseca, Maria Lucinda/ McGarrigle, Jennifer/ Esteves, Alina (2010) Possibilities and limitations of comparative quantitative research on immigrant's housing conditions, Prominstat Working Paper No. 06, available at [www.prominstat.eu](http://www.prominstat.eu)

## 5.12 Family and households

### ***General concepts and theoretical considerations***

Immigration policies ultimately result in the selection of households rather than individuals. However, receiving countries rarely adopt a household approach when designing and implementing their immigration policies. The formation and settlement of immigrant families that settle permanently at the country of destination is usually presented by policy makers as an unforeseen and unwanted outcome of their original decisions to admit foreign workers as a remedy for temporary labor shortages. Policy makers often argue that their country has to accept further immigration because of international commitments to the protection of fundamental human rights such as the right to family life. In fact, family-linked migration has effectively become the major source of new immigration to developed countries and, thus, also one of the fundamental sticking points of the debate about how liberal democracies should manage increasing ethnic diversity in their territories.

In investigating the family dimension of international migration, the thematic study on families and households has investigated four main issues:

- 1) The structure of family-linked migration in its twofold form of family reunification and family formation through the importation of spouses.
- 2) The family dimension of integration
- 3) The relation between different patterns of family-linked migration, the structure of immigrant households at destination and behavioral patterns of (individual) immigrants in different spheres of their daily life such as education and work.
- 4) Transnational families

## ***Main findings and recommendations***

The main difficulties to study family-related behaviours of migrants have to do with two common limitations in the current systems of data collection:

- 1) Scarcity of dated information and,
- 2) Lack of information on the family left behind (in particular in regard to partner/spouse and children).

In order to improve the statistical information in this area, our main recommendations are the following:

### *1) Clear distinction between family reunification and family forming migration*

Family reunification strictu sensu occurs when the family pre-existed the international migration of the involved persons, while family formation refers to families that are formed after the migration of (at least) some of the (new) family members. In particular, with regard to married couples, family reunification refers to the reunification of partners who married before the migration of both spouses, while family forming migration occurs when the couple to be reunified was formed after immigration of the prospective sponsor in the host country, while the other spouse (the one to be reunified) lived in the country of origin. In addition, family formation frequently involves non-migrant sponsors, i.e. persons born in the host country, whether of a foreign background or not.

Note that organising the data collection system in a way that permits the precise distinction of these two forms of reunification does not imply the need of applying different rules to each but it is absolutely compatible with keeping the same entry channel for both as some countries actually do.

### *2) Data collection that allows to separate different types of family-linked migration*

In order to be able to separate both types of family-linked migration it would be enough if countries collect information for each migrant not only on their date of (first) entry and date of marriage but also on the country of residence, and eventually date of (first) entry, of their spouses, regardless of when and where they marry.

In addition, this information should be collected regardless of whether the migrant has applied for family reunification or not, which would permit to calculate also reliable estimates of potential family reunification in the next future. To include children in these estimates, information about the number of children that each person has at the time of first entry to the country and their ages should be also systematically collected.

### *3) Data collection that allows the reconstruction of legal trajectories of migrants from a family perspective*

To be able to assess the impact that family formation and/or reunification have on the integration process as a whole, information that indicates whether an immigrant has been the principal applicant in a family reunification procedure or its main beneficiary should be

kept in the register that collects information on the type of residence permit that individuals hold at every moment during her stay in the country of immigration.

In addition, to the extent it is possible, spouses, parents and children living in the country should be linkable to each other within the register by means of a PIN number that identifies people belonging to the same (nuclear) family.

4) *Availability and accessibility of information on family dimensions of international migration*

Unfortunately, even in countries where some of the most valuable information in this area is collected, data are rarely published or even accessible for researchers under authorisation. This fact seriously hampers a proper assessment of immigration policies and their actual effects on the size and characteristics of immigration flows, and the overall progress of integration in our societies. Two main steps could be taken in order to improve this situation:

- 1) To publish data on total applications (and not only on granted applications), as a precondition for any basic assessment of changes over time and of the potential effect that immigration policies may have on both annual figures and historical trends.
- 2) To promote linkage operations between the different registers and sources that contain complementary information (sometimes redundant) on migrants and their family circumstances.

5) *For further developing quantitative comparative research on family*

Finally, the general strategy of incorporating reliable samples of immigrants in the main periodical surveys that most European countries carry out for the general population seems the most appropriate one in order to secure systematic data collection on issues such as family values and family relationships, and their connection with actual family behaviours and the integration process as a whole. In particular, to improve in the sampling methodology of periodical surveys such as the Microcensus or the Labour Force Survey to adequately represent immigrants in the resulting datasets, and to introduce some specific questions on family and migration events in their questionnaire is probably the cheapest and easiest way to achieve substantial progress in this area.

### **Conclusion**

The best strategy to know more about the process of family-linked migration is to systematically collect dated information on the main migration and family life-cycle events from every migrant at any moment the migrant has any kind of contact with the administration. This will allow to reconstruct the migration and family formation and/or reunification processes of all individuals, as well as knowing how many immigrants have relatives to reunify but had not yet sponsored their migration to the destination country, their characteristics and their changes over time.

For the complete study see:

Amparo González-Ferrer, Mariña Fernández-Reino, Ognjen Obucina. Thematic Study on Family. PROMINSTAT Working Paper No.12, available at: [www.prominstat.eu](http://www.prominstat.eu)

## 5.13 Integration

### ***General concepts and theoretical considerations***

On the political level, there is a predominant consent within the EU on the basic definition of 'integration' as a "two-way, multidimensional process". On the theoretical level, approaches range from (neo-)classical integration theories in the United States and their modified application in the European context, which assume a societal mainstream defining the "direction" of integration, to more pluralistic approaches of transnationalism. In integration research a general consent seems to prevail that the process of integration may have very different outcomes depending on the various social areas and may occur beyond society's core institutions.

A pragmatic framework for integration research is offered by the following four thematic dimensions: (1) the structural dimension, including issues such as labour market participation or educational attainments; (2) the cultural dimension, which refers to language competences, values and norms; (3) the interactive dimension, dealing with friendship and marriage patterns as well as transnational networks; and (4) the identificative dimension of integration, which mainly deals with feelings of belonging and identity matters. Additionally, the openness of the majority society (e.g. personal and systemic openness), contextual aspects of migrants (e.g. duration of stay, transnational patterns), and societal aspects (e.g. social-spatial criteria) can be defined as important dimensions of integration research.

Research on integration has grown significantly in the past years. Four main areas of research studies on integration can be distinguished: (1) Social integration into institutions of the receiving society, (2) the consequences of social integration for the social structure of receiving society, (3) immigration and societal integration of receiving society, and (4) on transnationalism. The vast majority of hitherto research studies dealt with the social integration into institutions of the receiving country.

### ***Main findings***

Country-specific differences as well as similarities are found in the applied concept of integration (e.g. the concept of equal rights and obligations among all residents is widely agreed on). The available data types vary strongly between the countries; registers and counts are the most commonly used data sources.

Country-specific datasets for the measurement of integration are often restricted to aspects relevant for the structural dimension of integration. The structural dimension is also the one that most integration indicators have been developed for and that is measured by most indicators in the EU member states, whereas other dimensions (e.g. identificative integration and the openness of the majority society) are rather neglected.

Efforts have been made to design harmonised sets of indicators on the European level. Standardised datasets that are already applied EU-wide cover only some indicators, such as labour market participation and educational performance.

Some EU member states have implemented national integration reporting or monitoring systems, which differ, however, significantly regarding their methodological approaches and data type used. Existing monitoring systems on the European level focus solely on individual aspects of integration (e.g. labour market participation) and thus do not reflect the multi-dimension, non-linear process of integration.

The definition and identification of migrant or minority groups studied in empirical integration research vary greatly between the PROMINSTAT countries; third country (non-EU) nationals are primarily the target group of “integration”. Datasets only rarely differentiate by duration of stay and second generation migrant.

In most European countries official statistical information consists of a combination of census data, register and counts. Official statistical data have the potential to provide systematic reporting on the data situation of migrants by registration of objective structural data. In contrast, survey data, especially multi-topic surveys, allow for thematically differentiated analyses as well as for analyses that focus on alternating details. Longitudinal and panel data hold the potential of capturing the long-term and intergenerational character of integration processes.

### ***Recommendations***

For the measurement of the complex processes of integration it is essential that datasets offer the opportunity to clearly identify the target groups and specific sub-groups. Datasets should include socio-economic, demographic and other background indicators and differentiate between the population with migration background and the autochthonous population. Longitudinal and international harmonised data are desirable. Datasets should shift from covering predominantly the structural dimension of integration to a multi-dimensional coverage of the integration process.

Registers and surveys are the most suitable data sources for providing comprehensive background information in a rather cost-efficient way. Interlinked register-systems and longitudinal surveys bear the highest potential for capturing the long-term character of integration processes. Panel studies should be institutionalised to study integration processes. The quality of panel studies could be increased by allowing the identification of sub-groups within the group of migrants (e.g. native speakers). Existing surveys providing these differentiated data should more consistently be used by integration researchers.

Concepts of integration, indicators and integration reporting or monitoring systems should be generated in all EU member states with the aspiration of the comparability of results. Existing monitoring systems on the European level should enable the interlinking of data and be extended to include several dimensions of integration.

For the complete study see:

Heckmann, Friedrich/ Köhler, Claudia/ Peucker, Mario/ Reiter, Stefanie (2010): Quantitative Integration Research in Europe – Data Needs and Data Availability. Prominstat Working Paper No. 3, available at: [www.prominstat.eu](http://www.prominstat.eu)

## 5.14 Discrimination

### ***General concepts and theoretical considerations***

Discrimination based on ethnic or 'racial' origin has been an issue for international bodies since the end of WWII. The ILO adopted its Discrimination Convention No.111 in 1958 and the first European country introducing national legislation against discrimination was the UK in 1965. According to the Council Directive 2000/43 discrimination on grounds of racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, age or sexual orientation is forbidden in the context of 1) access to employment, self-employment or an occupation, including selection criteria and recruitment; 2) access to all types of vocational training and guidance, including practical work experience; 3) employment and working conditions, including dismissals and pay; and 4) membership of or involvement in trade unions and other workers' organisations, employers' associations and professional bodies. The directive distinguishes between direct and indirect discrimination. Direct discrimination refers to less favourable treatment of persons on grounds of ethnic origin, whereas indirect discrimination means that when an apparently neutral provision, criterion or practice puts persons from different ethnic origin at a particular disadvantage compared with other people.

Measuring discrimination directly is possible through surveying reported incidents of discrimination; statistics which are to be collected in all EU countries. However, such complaints are assessed against the provisions of the law and providing individual cases is different from measuring the general prevalence of discrimination. Other ways of directly measuring discrimination are perceptions of discrimination. Such statistics provide only a very rough picture on the existence of discrimination, since the perceptions do not necessarily correspond to actual reality. Several international surveys contain questions on experienced discrimination. For instance the Eurobarometer 317 of 2009 contained questions on how widespread persons think that different types of discrimination are, on the personal feeling of being discriminated against or harassed and on witnessing someone being discriminated against. So far the largest victimisation survey on discrimination on the basis of ethnic origin was commissioned by the EU Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA), called European Union Minorities and Discrimination Survey (EU MIDIS). Furthermore, the readiness to discriminate can be surveyed through collecting information on certain attitudes towards immigrants or through directly asking how racist persons consider themselves (such as in the Eurobarometer 47.1, 1999). However, a direct link between attitudes and behaviour cannot be presumed. As a good source for directly



measuring discrimination serve field experiments, such as discrimination or situation testing. In such tests usually two CVs are sent to job offers. The CVs are similar except for the origin of the job applicant. Consequently, differences in responses to the CVs can be directly traced back to discrimination on ground of the origin of the persons. Although such tests were carried out in several European countries, the datasets are usually not available for secondary analysis.

Furthermore, discrimination can be used as an explanation for inequality, but discrimination must not be confounded with inequality, since discrimination can only be one possible cause of inequality. But for measuring the degree or influence of discrimination on inequality, all other causes for inequality need to be identified and controlled for. Discrimination can be measured in the relation between inputs and outcomes. If the same inputs lead to different outputs, the difference might be explained by discrimination. Hence, discrimination can be treated as an inferred explanatory variable for unequal outcomes. This method demands advanced statistical calculations, which measure the influence of several characteristics on certain outcomes, such as on income, wages or the probability of labour market participation for different groups. As a result, differences in the outcomes (e.g. wages) after controlling for several inputs (e.g. gender, age, education, qualification, etc.) can be ascribed to discrimination against the disadvantaged group. The major challenge for this technique is to find all the relevant input variables. The inclusion of many explanatory variables demands datasets with large samples, which makes registers more suitable for this purpose. However, registers usually do not hold many additional variables useful for explaining different outcomes in e.g. wages. Due to these specific requirements the method is not frequently applied. Another important issue of discrimination against migrants and their descendents concerns occupational segregation which is related to education (and discrimination in the area of education) as well as over-qualification.

The need to obtain more information on unequal treatments and discrimination against immigrants calls for the improvement of the overall quality of existing data sources as well as creativity concerning the methodology for proving discrimination. Research on discrimination was mainly pioneered and conducted in the USA and discrimination research in Europe is far less numerous. Longitudinal data are of major importance and should be collected on an international level. Moreover, centralised data collection of complaints data (by for instance the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights) would be a feasible way of creating a homogeneous data collection on discrimination and racism.

For the complete study see:

Gächter, August (2010): Data needs and data availability for discrimination research in Europe. Prominstat Working Paper No. 10, forthcoming at: [www.prominstat.eu](http://www.prominstat.eu)

## **Textbox: The Migration and Development Nexus – Remittances Data in 27 European Countries**

by Alfred Woeger (ICMPD)

*Note: While migration and development has not originally been among the thematic areas to be investigated in the PROMINSTAT project the increasing salience of the topic, and the increasing demand for comparable data on migration and development, evidenced, for example by new instruments such as the Migration Profiles and a variety of research projects, has led the project team to include a limited analysis of one type of migration and development related data – data on remittances – into the final project. More, doubtlessly, has to be done. This textbox provides an analysis of remittance data on a general level and complements this by an analysis of relevant datasets covered by the PROMINSTAT database.*

Remittances data are compiled by National Banks and rely mostly on (a) reports prepared by money transfer operators, (b) statistics provided by National Statistical Offices and Ministries (inter alia the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Labour, Ministry of Employment, etc.) and (c) reports prepared by international organisations.

National banks report remittances to the International Monetary Fund (IMF), which publishes data on remittances annually in the Balance of Payment Statistics Yearbook. The Balance of Payment framework is based on the concept of residence.

*“The residence of households is determined according to the center of predominant economic interest of its members. The general guideline for applying this principle - being present for one year or more in a territory or intending to do so - is sufficient to qualify as being a resident of that economy.” (IMF 2009b: 276)*

The concept of residence is of importance for remittances data mainly because remittances flows are recorded differently according to the residence status of the foreign worker in the host country (IMF 2009a: 18). So far, remittance transactions were recoded in three different sections depending on the residence status of a person:

- ‘Compensations of employees’ represent gross salaries (in cash or in kind) of workers residing abroad for less than 12 months. Included are contributions paid by employers to social security schemes or to private insurance or pension funds.
- ‘Workers’ remittances’ comprise current transfers by migrants who are employed in new economies and reside abroad for more than one year.
- ‘Migrants’ transfers’ represent flows of goods and changes in financial items that arise from the migration (change of residence for at least a year) of individuals from one economy to another. (IMF 1993: 70, 75, 84)

However, the concept of remittances and consequently remittances data has a lot of limitations. First and probably the most significant difficulty in terms of quantitative effects is that remittances sent through informal, unrecorded channels are not captured by official estimates. Informal channels may include ordinary mail services, family members, friends or informal money remitting agents and migrants themselves. As informal remittances may be substantial, estimates based on formally recorded transfers – whether in kind or in cash – are thus likely to considerably underestimate the actual amount of remittances sent. This is a major point where household surveys can provide important additional information not available from records of financial institutions.

Second, the concept ‘compensations of employees’, i.e. the gross incomes of workers residing abroad less than one year, overestimates the real flow of remittances. Obviously a significant amount of salaries are spent in the host country and are not sent home. Furthermore, ‘compensations of employees’ include earnings of persons working, for instance, at embassies and international organisations, which are treated as extraterritorial entities (Straubhaar/Vâdean 2005: 14). In the case of Austria, for example, remittances statistics compiled by the Austrian National Bank disclose more inward than outward ‘compensations of employees’ flows, mainly because of the payments of international organisations based in the country (Küblböck 2007: 100).

Third, IMF concepts are not applied consistently across all EU Member States affecting the comparability of remittances data. Some Member States pull all remittances flows together under the category ‘compensations of employees’. Other Member States do not separately recode the category ‘migrants’ transfers’ or ‘workers’ remittances’ in the capital account. In addition, some European countries do not recode all remittances flows under these three categories but also under the section ‘other current transfers other sectors’ (see World Bank 2008; Straubhaar/Vâdean 2005: 14). Comparability of remittances data of EU Member States is also reduced through heterogeneous concepts and methods used for the collection and estimation of remittances data (EC 2006: 2).

Fourth, in most EU Member States a minimum threshold for remittances exists – typically at 12.500 Euro – below which individual transactions are not recorded. In some countries, estimates are entered in the Balance of Payments statistics to cover transfers below the threshold. In other countries flows below the threshold tend to be ignored (EC 2006:10).

In 2006, the lack of reliable and comparable international remittances data induced international organisations to create the ‘Luxembourg Group’ (an informal statistical working group composed of representatives of the International Monetary Fund, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, the Statistical Office of the European Communities, the World Bank, and representatives from several national statistical offices and central banks) to review the problems and challenges in regard to remittances data. One of the main outcomes of the ‘Luxembourg Group’, under the lead of IMF’s Statistics Department, was the publication of a manual providing detailed guidance on the compilation of remittance data. According to the *‘International Transactions in Remittances: Guide for Compilers and Users (RCG)’*, published in 2009, three major changes in reporting remittances data are introduced.

First, only two items, ‘compensations of employees’ and ‘personal transfers’, which replaces the category ‘workers’ remittances’, substantially relate to remittances. ‘Personal transfers’ defined as “*current transfers in cash or in kind made or received by resident households to or from nonresident households*” (IMF 2009a: 20) are in contrast to ‘workers’ remittances’ independently notably of the source of income of

the sending household and the purpose for which the transfer is made (ibid.).

Second, three supplementary items related to remittances have been identified. However, the compilation and reporting of 'Personal remittances', 'Total remittances' and 'Total remittances and transfers to non-profit institutions serving households' is voluntary depending on the needs of the compiling economy (ibid: 21).

Third, the concept 'migrants' transfers' is now recorded in 'other changes in volume' and not in transactions (ibid: 23).

### **Remittances Data in European Household Surveys - Main Findings and Recommendations**

National and international household surveys containing remittances variables can be an important source to provide data on remittances sent through formal and particularly informal channels, which are not captured by official estimates.

Household surveys can be used to obtain information on households receiving remittances and on remitting households. In particular, household surveys provide important information on remittance behaviour and determinants of remittances, thus providing crucial information for the elaboration of policies aimed at promoting remittances and increasing the overall volume of remittances. Household surveys thus can help to improve the quality of data and give more detailed insights into inter alia transfer methods, purpose of remittances, etc. (IMF 2009a: 37). **In general, only few European household surveys contain remittances variables.** The need for more and better data on migrants and remittances in the European Union has been pointed out by several actors on the European level. Recently, the so-called Suitland Working Group, a joint initiative of the US-Census Bureau, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and Eurostat has been launched to investigate the use of household surveys to measure migration and characteristics of migrants and includes a sub-working group on household surveys as a source of information on remittance behavior and the volume of remittances sent. Anyway, it **still has to be investigated to what extent national banks in Europe use household surveys to compile remittances data.**

**The PROMINSTAT database contains twelve national household surveys and one international survey including remittances variables. More than 50% of the household surveys have been conducted in France, Spain and Portugal (see Table 1).**

**National and international household surveys contained the following remittances variables:**

- Are you sending money or goods back to your country of origin?
- Are you taking money back to your country of origin?
- For which purpose are remittances made?
- What is the amount sent back to the country of origin?
- How often are remittances sent?
- On which occasion are remittances sent back home?
- To whom are remittances directed?
- What method is used to send money back to the country of origin?

**Table 1: National and International Household surveys including remittances variables**

Country	Dataset name and period covered
AT, BE, ES, FR, DE, NL, CH, SE	The Integration of the European Second Generation (2007)
FR	Immigrants' transition to retirement (2002/2003)
FR	Geographical Mobility and Social Integration – immigrants (1992/1993)
FR	Longitudinal survey on the careers and profiles of newly arrived or regularized migrants (2006, 2007)
HU	Irregular labour migration to Hungary (1998/1999)
NL	Longitudinal survey on the social position and use of resources allochthones (1988, 1991, 1994, 1998, 2003)
NO	Survey on Living Conditions (1996)
PT	Attitudes and values towards immigration (2002)
PT	Immigrants and the Portuguese Population: Reciprocal Images - analysis of two surveys (2004)
PT	Family reunification and immigration in Portugal (2004)
ES	National Survey of Immigrants (2007)
ES	LocalMultiDem Barcelona (2007)
ES	LocalMultiDem Madrid (2007)

**The dataset analysis shows that all European household surveys including remittances variables are immigrant surveys. Consequently it is not surprising that European household surveys focus predominantly on individuals sending money to the country of origin while persons receiving remittances are basically not included.**

In 2007, six of the top ten remittances receiving countries were Member States of the European Union (France, Spain, Belgium, Germany, United Kingdom, and Romania) and in some member states inward remittances flows amounted a significant share of the GDP (inter alia Bulgaria 5,4%; Romania 5,5%; Luxembourg 3,1%; and Latvia 2,4%) (see World Bank 2008). In view of this fact, it would be important to include variables regarding remittances receiving households in household surveys. This would help not only to improve remittances data but also to get more insights in remittances receiving households which are in some European countries totally unexplored.

Furthermore, **the analysis exemplifies that the use of household surveys to gain direct data on**

**formal and informal remittances seems to be relatively uncommon.** Only every fourth household survey containing remittances variables included a specific question with regards to the amount of money sent by individuals to their country of origin. This question was rarely limited to a certain time period or variables particularly focusing on the frequency of money transfers were missing. **Variables allowing conclusions whether the money was sent through formal or informal channels were lacking.**

To get direct data or estimates on formal and especially informal remittances flows it would be essential to include variables regarding the amount sent, the frequency of remitting and the method used to send money to the country of origin.

## 6. Gaps and needs

A gap analysis on the basis of country reports produced in the project and the project database shows that there is still much to be done in the area of data collection on migration, integration and discrimination. The main problems reported concern insufficient coverage of the population of interest on the one hand and insufficient coverage of certain information on the other hand.

### 6.1 Problems with covering migrants and their descendants

Insufficient coverage of the population of interest, most notably migrants, means over- or under-representation of certain groups. Generally, stocks of migrants are far better covered than flows; and within flows it is mainly outflows/ emigrations which are inadequately measured. This major problem of measuring migration movements stems from the fact that emigrants mostly do not register their departure (i.e. de-register at the local authorities). Migration in- and outflows are principally measured on the basis of registrations of residents. However, there are no incentives to de-register at the local authorities and migrants often do not inform about their departure. Besides not informing the authorities about emigration, immigrants might delay the registration of their residence. The delay in registering arrivals leads to biased immigration numbers. These problems concern all countries measuring migration movements with administrative registers. In turn under-coverage of outflows leads to over-coverage of stocks and hence leads to over-estimations of population stocks. Yet, the problem of under-coverage does not only concern migration movements but also other flows of statuses. All registers not automatically updated depend on (often voluntary) information of the persons concerned. For instance, in Austria the naturalisations database is not linked to the social insurance database, this means that changes of citizenship status are not automatically updated. Thus, in case persons do not voluntarily

inform about their change of citizenship, the registers keep the wrong status and over-estimate the number of non-nationals covered by social insurance.<sup>28</sup>

In addition to coverage problems in registers, surveys equally have their difficulties in properly covering migrant populations. Most sample surveys, which aim at covering the general population, under-estimate migrant stocks (see also discussion of the Labour Force Survey above). Besides general under-representation of migrants and minorities in surveys, the sample sizes of the groups of interest such as non-nationals or foreign-born are often too small to allow for statistically significant calculations. Thus, the share of non-nationals in the EU27 was 6.2 percent in 2008, while the unweighted average was 7.7 per cent per country. Commonly used sample sizes of 1,000 to 5,000 respondents per country lead therefore to numbers of sampled foreigners between some 70 and 400. While the number of observations are still sufficient for broad analytical purposes, breaking down the sample by additional variables such as gender, age and country of origin further reduces the number of observations to the point that no statistical calculations are possible anymore.

## 6.2 Lack information on migrants and minorities

Besides coverage problems leading to under- and/ or over-representation of certain groups of interest another major problem of researching migration related issues is the lack of information on immigrants or minorities on the one hand and missing information on certain topics of interest related to immigration, integration and discrimination.

### 6.2.1 Identification of immigrants

First, the most basic requirement for migration research is to be able to identify immigrants or minorities in a dataset. However, several datasets do not hold any or only limited information which indicates migration background. The most central statistical information regarding migration background includes citizenship and place of birth, but current research needs ask for much more detailed information. The problem of missing information mainly concerns register-based statistics but often surveys and censuses lack important basic variables too. For instance German and Austrian registers of social insurance registrations only include information on citizenship, but not on place of birth or year of immigration. In order to properly investigate immigration issues a combination of several variables on migration background is important. The main concepts used in European statistics on migration, integration and discrimination include information on citizenship, origin, migration history, legal status, descent and/or ethnicity (see Figure 3):

- **Citizenship** of the resident population is the predominant concept used in statistical sources and is the major concept in almost all Prominstat countries.<sup>29</sup> This category can

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<sup>28</sup> for instance citizenship in Austrian registers (cf. Reichel 2009b)

be broken down by a detailed list of countries or certain clusters of countries such as EU/Non-EU, Western or Non-Western countries or simply by citizens vs. non-citizens. Further information on citizenship is the citizenship at birth and/ or possible naturalisation. This information is, however, rarely included in official statistics.

- The second most important category used in statistical datasets for indicating migration background is the country of **origin** of the persons. Some datasets also try to capture the country of previous residence since the country of birth not necessarily corresponds to the country of residence prior to immigration to the current country of residence. Similar breakdowns as for citizenship are used for countries of origin. Information on country of birth became increasingly important in national statistics in the past years, yet it is still missing in several major datasets.
- More detailed information on the **migration history** or sometimes also on migration plans has generally been used rather infrequently but has received increasing attention in recent years. Especially the exact length of residence in the country, usually measured by the variable year of immigration, is of importance to study migration and integration processes. Censuses and surveys usually do not ask for the length of residence, although questions on the place of residence five years, one year or three months ago are frequently included. The variable, however, is essentially included to capture a particular target group (e.g. permanent immigrants as opposed to temporary migrants with a stay of less than a year). Another indicator for migration background is the question whether or not a person has ever lived outside her or his country of usual or current residence for a certain period of time. In order to determine whether persons are short or long term immigrants, persons can also be asked about their intended or planned length of residence when entering the country. However, the obvious problem related to the method is that the planned residence does not necessarily have to correspond to the actual length of residence. An additional important dimension of migration history is the reason(s) or motive(s) for immigration or residence (such as family, work, or asylum).
- Information on the **legal status of non-citizens** draws increasing attention of migration researchers as well. The legal status of migrant is important regarding the right to reside in the country and the right to work in the country. Information on residence and work permits provide information on the access to certain rights, reasons for immigration (e.g. family, work, asylum) and permitted length of residence (limited or unlimited).
- To be able to study the so-called 'second generation' of immigrant, namely the descendants of immigrants, it is necessary to have information on the **origin or country of citizenship of parents**.

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<sup>29</sup> A special case is the UK, where citizenship is rarely used, both because of the predominance of the 'ethnic minority' concept and the complexity of nationality issues related to the country's imperial past.



- The **ethnicity** of persons is mainly determined by (voluntary) declaration of the population, thus almost exclusively available from censuses and surveys. The criteria for defining ethnicities are manifold, including criteria such as (colloquial) language, ethnic nationality, religion, or skin-colour. For instance language is used in Spain or in Austria to identify native groups with different colloquial languages. Ethnic nationality is mainly used in former Soviet Union countries and skin-colour (combined with other criteria) in the UK.

The population of interest might be determined by the concept of usual residence, which is mainly used in censuses, or by differentiating between permanent and temporary residence. However, the lengths of residence defining temporary/ short-term or permanent/ long-term are different in European countries although efforts to harmonise these definitions are ongoing (see UN 1998).

**Figure 3: Information/ Concepts used for indicating migration background and categorisations used**

<b>Citizenship</b>						
Detailed breakdown	Citizens/ Non-citizens	EU-citizens/ TCNs	Western/ Non-Western	Citizenship at birth	Naturalised / since birth	Dual citizenship
<b>Origin</b>						
Country of birth			Country of previous residence			
Detailed breakdown	Foreign-born/ Native born	EU/ Non-EU	Western/ Non-Western	Other		
<b>Residence/ Migration history</b>						
Length of residence	Residence certain time ago	Ever migrant	Planned/ intended residence	Reason for residence or immigration		
<b>Legal status</b>						
Residence permit			Work permit			
Detailed legal basis of reason for residence or work		Unlimited/ permanent vs. limited/ temporary		No residence status and/or no work permit		
<b>Descent</b>						
Parents' country of birth (both or one)			Parents' citizenship (both or one)			
<b>Ethnicity</b>						
Language	Nationality	Religion	Skin colour	Undefined	Other	Mixed

Source: own elaboration, based on Prominstat Country Reports

Depending on national migration histories and statistical practices, several countries use different concepts for migrants and their descendants based on combinations of the information described in Figure 3. For instance in the Netherlands combinations of the country of birth and the parents' country of birth (at least one parent) determine the population with migration background. In Norway persons with both parents born abroad belong to the immigration

category while person with one parent born abroad belong to the group of persons with migration background. France uses the concept of immigrants (*immigré*) which is defined as persons born abroad as a foreigner. Sweden makes extensive use of concepts of citizenship, country of birth, length of residence and parents' country of birth to measure migration background. In Denmark the concept of ancestry is also based in combinations of citizenship, parents' and own country of birth and migration background in Germany uses information on citizenship, country of origin, year of arrival and naturalisation of the persons concerned. Other exemplary concepts are 'returned migrants' in Malta or 'recognised non-citizens' in Latvia.

The different categories/ differentiations and combinations used within the basic variables such as citizenship or country of birth cause problems for migration related research. On the one hand a lack of differentiations of important variables is frequently reported, since research on migrants and minorities asks for further differentiations than simply citizenship and country of birth. This means that simple differentiations between citizens/ non-citizens and native-born/ foreign-born are not considered sufficient categories, as non-nationals and foreign-born are not homogeneous groups. On the other hand it is the lack of differentiations and available categories which leads to the major problem of incomparability of statistics at the international level. For instance, comparing breakdowns of non-nationals by third-country nationals and EU-nationals is incomparable to breakdowns by Western and non-Western immigrants. In this regard including international definitions remains the most important step towards harmonisation of data collection. However, different categorisations used in different datasets and changes of definitions or categorisations in the same dataset lead furthermore to incomparability of data at the national level.

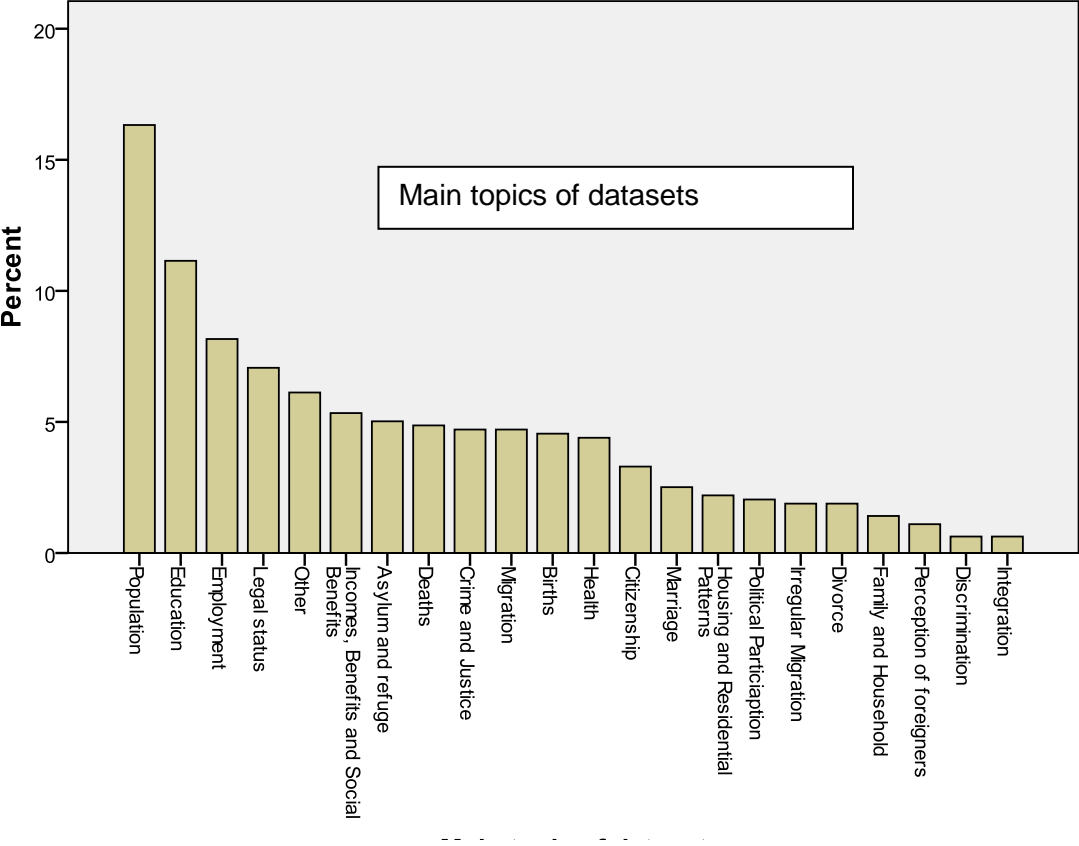
Important international recommendations and standards are defined by the United Nations regarding the census (see UNECE 2006) and the definitions of lengths of residence, defining persons staying between three and twelve months as short-term immigrants and persons staying longer than one years as long-term immigrants (see UN 1998). Further international standards and definition are defined by the statistics regulation and Eurostat.

Thus the availability of exhausting categories of the population by legal status, migration history, descent and possibly self-declared ethnicity is imperative for migration research and helps to overcome problems of incomparability between datasets.

### **6.2.2 Missing information on certain topics**

The second aspect concerns missing information on additional topics, relevant for migration and integration research. The thematic areas covered vary between countries, however, especially datasets primarily focusing on integration and discrimination issues are rarely available in Europe. However, the quantity of datasets available on a certain topic does not reveal anything about the quality of the datasets. For instance, although there are many datasets dealing with education, these often provide only rudimentary information and no or weak information on certain key topics.

**Figure 4: Shares of datasets described in the PROMINSTAT database by main topic of dataset**



Source: Prominstat database, Nov. 2009. International surveys excluded. Several waves of repeated surveys were counted only once, N= 637

## 7. Recommendations

Data availability is a fast and continuously developing area. The PROMINSTAT project analysed the state of data availability in the area of migration, integration and discrimination in 27 European countries at the end of the first decade of the new millennium. In order to purposefully improve the data availability and consequently improve the possibilities to research migration, integration and discrimination issues the following main recommendations are made:

- **Additional information.** The introduction of new and more detailed information on migration background into datasets. Besides the main variables of citizenship and country of birth (which should be available by detailed breakdowns) information on lengths of residence, previous country of residence, purpose of migration, legal status and naturalisation should be included in datasets whenever possible.
- **Better accessibility.** Accessibility of data to researchers should be made easier. This applies to the publication of aggregate statistics by the data owners as well as access to anonymised individual data. The publication of aggregate statistics merely by citizenship or country of birth is not sufficient to explain differences in certain social statistics and may very often, indeed, be misleading.
- **Better co-operation between data owners.** Researchers strongly recommend an improvement of the co-operation between institutions owning data within countries, including exploring possibilities for data linkage and elaborating common definitions within countries as well as internationally.
- **Oversampling of migrants and minorities in surveys.** A strategy to make surveys more useful for migration research is to over-sample migrants in surveys. Oversampling has been used in a variety of several national surveys and has proven to increase the usability of the dataset significantly. In addition, surveys targeting only certain migrant groups might be a useful strategy to collect data on migrants and minorities.
- **Collect more longitudinal data.** To a large extent, integration understood as a dynamic process is about changes over time. Studying integration thus requires data that allows to study these changes. Cross-sectional survey data, censuses and counts usually provide only snapshots of the situation at a given point in time. To study change over time on an individual level, however, longitudinal data are needed – data which currently are available only to a limited extent. Possible strategies to improve the availability of longitudinal data include using registers and data linkage, introducing longitudinal surveys and include retrospective survey modules.

- **Utilise existing data.** Finally, in spite of many improvements to be made in the coming future the number of datasets relevant to migration research in Europe is substantial. Before launching new data collection efforts especially researchers should properly check whether or not the needed information is already available. Also for this purpose the PROMINSTAT database provides a useful tool to recover existing data sources.
- **Campaigning and awareness-raising.** One option to solve the major problems of under-coverage in registers –notably the registration of emigration – would be launching information campaigns to raise the awareness regarding the importance of registering immigration and or emigration through information posters at registration offices and important entry and exit points, such as airports. In addition, staff of registration offices could encourage persons to fill in registrations forms properly, including optional sections to achieve better coverage of additional information.

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## 9. ANNEXES

### Annex 1: Additional data tables (PROMINSTAT database analysis)

Table 3: Types of datasets described in the Prominstat database by country

	Totals				Percentage of total			
	Register	Count	Survey	Total	Register	Count	Survey	Total
AT	12	17	4	33	36.4%	51.5%	12.1%	100.0%
BE	8	11	1	20	40.0%	55.0%	5.0%	100.0%
CH	6	28	6	40	15.0%	70.0%	15.0%	100.0%
CY	6	0	2	8	75.0%	0.0%	25.0%	100.0%
CZ	11	19	2	32	34.4%	59.4%	6.3%	100.0%
DE	11	8	9	28	39.3%	28.6%	32.1%	100.0%
DK	17	2	1	20	85.0%	10.0%	5.0%	100.0%
EE	2	5	0	7	28.6%	71.4%	0.0%	100.0%
ES	6	11	10	27	22.2%	40.7%	37.0%	100.0%
FI	16	9	1	26	61.5%	34.6%	3.8%	100.0%
FR	1	5	22	28	3.6%	17.9%	78.6%	100.0%
GR	3	3	0	6	50.0%	50.0%	0.0%	100.0%
HU	12	11	5	28	42.9%	39.3%	17.9%	100.0%
IE	2	7	0	9	22.2%	77.8%	0.0%	100.0%
IT	7	12	3	22	31.8%	54.5%	13.6%	100.0%
LT	4	1	0	5	80.0%	20.0%	0.0%	100.0%
LU	5	11	2	18	27.8%	61.1%	11.1%	100.0%
LV	1	0	1	2	50.0%	0.0%	50.0%	100.0%
MT	7	2	0	9	77.8%	22.2%	0.0%	100.0%
NL	4	1	11	16	25.0%	6.3%	68.8%	100.0%
NO	33	0	11	44	75.0%	0.0%	25.0%	100.0%
PL	3	35	0	38	7.9%	92.1%	0.0%	100.0%
PT	8	3	4	15	53.3%	20.0%	26.7%	100.0%
SE	17	21	5	43	39.5%	48.8%	11.6%	100.0%
SI	4	10	0	14	28.6%	71.4%	0.0%	100.0%
SK	3	6	0	9	33.3%	66.7%	0.0%	100.0%
UK	2	16	2	20	10.0%	80.0%	10.0%	100.0%
Total	211	254	102	567	37.2%	44.8%	18.0%	100.0%

Note: internationally conducted surveys excluded

Source: Prominstat database, Nov. 2009

Table 5: Introduction of ongoing registers and counts by year and country

Country	Year							Total
	Until 1950	1951 to 1960	1961 to 1970	1971 to 1980	1981 to 1990	1991 to 2000	2000 or later	
AT	1	1	4	2	3	6	8	25
BE		1	4		2	10	1	18
CH				4	5	9	1	19
CY		1				3	2	6
CZ		1		1	2	16	6	26
DE		1			1	5		7
DK				3	1	5	1	10
EE						6	1	7
ES					2	1	4	7
FI	1	1	1	1	7	8	5	24
FR					1	5		6
GR					1		4	5
HU			6	2	4	7	4	23
IE						4	4	8
IT			2		1	10	2	15
LT						2	2	4
LU	4			3	1	3		11
LV						1		1
MT				1		4	1	6
NL		1			1	3		5
NO		1	5	2	5	16	3	32
PL					1	4	26	31
PT	1			1	2	3	1	8
SE		1	8	2	9	10	3	33
SI				1		2	11	14
UK				1	2	3	7	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>364</b>

Source: Prominstat database, Nov. 2009

## Annex 2: PROMINSTAT Country Reports

	Country	Author(s)	Date of publication
1	Austria	Albert Kraler, Christina Hollomey and Alfred Woeger	May 2009 (updated December 2009)
2	Belgium	Nicolas Perrin and Quentin Schoonvaere	April 2009
3	Bulgaria	Anne Herm	February 2010
4	Czech Republic	Dušan Drbohlav and Lenka Lachmanová-Medová	May 2009
5	Cyprus	Martin Baldwin-Edwards	May 2010
6	Denmark	Anita Lange and Thomas Michael Nielsen	April 2009
7	Estonia	Université Catholique de Louvain	April 2009
8	Finland	Sirkku Wilkman	April 2009 (updated February 2010)
9	France	Tatiana Eremenko and Xavier Thierry	April 2009
10	Germany	Mario Peucker and Stefanie Reiter	June 2009 (updated December 2009)
11	Greece	Martin Baldwin-Edwards	May 2010
12	Hungary	Éva Gárdos and Judit Juhasz	March 2010
13	Italy	Domenico Gabrielli, Salvatore Strozza and Enrico Todisco	April 2009
14	Ireland	Ann Singleton, Audrey Lenoël, Olga Gora and Lynnmarie Sardinha	June 2010
15	Latvia	Rita Zukauskiene	June 2009
16	Lithuania	Rita Zukauskiene	June 2009
17	Luxembourg	Quentin Schoonvaere and Nicolas Perrin	April 2009
18	Malta	Albert Kraler and David Reichel	April 2009
19	Netherlands	Jeroen Doomernik	August 2009 (updated February 2010)
20	Norway	Vebjørn Aalandslid and Lars Østby	April 2009
21	Poland	Dorota Kupiszewska	May 2009
22	Portugal	Maria Lucinda Fonseca, Alina Esteves, Dora Possidónio and Jennifer McGarrigle	April 2009
23	Romania	Anne Herm	February 2010
24	Slovakia	Mária Katerinková, Danuša Jurčová and Ferenc Csatari	March 2009
25	Slovenia	David Reichel	April 2009
26	Spain	Amparo González-Ferrer	June 2009
27	Sweden	Mirjam Hagström	April 2009
28	Switzerland	Marco Pecoraro	April 2009
29	United Kingdom	Audrey Lenoël, Ann Singleton and Olga Gora	January 2010

Available at: [www.prominostat.eu](http://www.prominostat.eu)

### Annex 3: Overview of PROMINSTAT Thematic Working Papers

WP No.	Title	Author(s)	Date of publication
01	Quantitative data in the area of migration, integration and discrimination in Europe – an overview	Albert Kraler, David Reichel	February 2010
02	Thematic study on employment	Pieter Bevelander, Mirjam Hagström	May 2010
03	Quantitative integration research in Europe – Data needs and data availability	Friedrich Heckmann, Claudia Köhler, Mario Peucker and Stefanie Reiter	May 2010
04	Possibilities and limitations of comparative quantitative research on international migration flows	Dorota Kupiszewska, Marek Kupiszewski, Mónica Martí and Carmen Ródenas	May 2010
05	Thematic Study on Work Permit Data	Izabela Grabowska-Lusińska	May 2010
06	Possibilities and limitations of comparative quantitative research on immigrant's housing conditions	Maria Lucinda Fonseca, Jennifer McGarrigle and Alina Esteves	May 2010
07	Thematic Study on Data on the Legal Status of Immigrants in the EU	Adriana Castaldo	May 2010
08	Quantitative data on Immigrants' Political Participation in Europe	Jeroen Doomernik, Albert Kraler, David Reichel	May 2010
09	Possibilities and limitations of comparative research on international migration and health	Judit Juhász, Péter Makara, Ágnes Taller	May 2010
10	Data needs and data availability for discrimination research in Europe	August Gächter	Forthcoming
11	Population stocks relevant to international migration	Michel Poulain, Anne Herm	Forthcoming
12	Thematic Study on Family	Amparo González-Ferrer, Mariña Fernández-Reino, Ognjen Obucina	Forthcoming
13	Thematic study on irregular migration	Dusan Drbohlav, Lenka Medova, Albert Kraler, Martin Baldwin-Edwards	Forthcoming
14	Thematic study on income	Pieter Bevelander, Mirjam Hagström	Forthcoming
15	Thematic study on citizenship acquisition	David Reichel	Forthcoming
16	Study on data needs from a policy perspective	Ann Singleton	Forthcoming

Available at [www.prominstat.eu](http://www.prominstat.eu)

#### Annex 4: Overview of selected conference presentations of PROMINSTAT results

<b>Date</b>	<b>Conference</b>	<b>Audience (estimated size)</b>
March 2010	Presentation of thematic study on employment data at the International Metropolis Conference in Montreal/ Canada. Title of presentation: Longitudinal data in Europe and Economic Integration of Immigrants	Research, academics, migration specialists
13 Nov 2009	Short presentation at a policy workshop organised by the EC on irregular migration in Brussels (Clandestino workshop)	Policy makers (25)
11 Sept 2009	Cross-cluster workshop on “Measuring social and spatial characteristics of immigrants – an analysis of data collection in Europe” at the IMISCOE-SUS.DIV Conference, Stockholm, Sweden	Research, academics, migration specialists (21)
17 July 2009	Project presentation at the 35th Meeting of National Contact Points of the European Migration Network, Brussels	Researcher and practitioners (45)
26 June 2009	Project presentation at the GEMMA (Gender and Migration) Policy Workshop London/Middlesex University	Researchers and Academics (20)
16-17 March 2009	Dissemination of project results at the Suitland Working Group meeting in Suitland/Maryland (USA)	Researchers and practitioners (50)
10/11 Sept 2008	Presentation of thematic studies in B3 Cluster and cross-cluster initiative “Assessing statistical data collection in the field of migration, integration and discrimination in Europe” including a presentation of the project and the database at the 5th IMISCOE conference in Bilbao, Spain	Research, academics, migration specialists (60)
29 Oct. 2008	Organisation of workshop “Responding to new needs: Improving immigration, integration and discrimination data” at the 13th International Metropolis Conference in Bonn, Germany	Research, academics, migration specialists
Sept. 2007	General presentation of the project "Scope, quality and comparability of statistical data collection in the field of migration and integration – project PROMINSTAT" at the 4th IMISCOE conference in Brighton, UK	Research, academics, migration specialists

Note: A comprehensive overview of dissemination activities can be found in the periodic activity reports

## Annex 5: International Online Statistical Databases on migration

- [Clandestino database](#) on irregular migrants in the European Union. The database provides an inventory and a critical appraisal of data and estimates in the European Union and in selected member states. It contains estimates on the size of irregular migrant populations and indicators of their composition with regard to gender, age, nationality and sector of economic activity.
- [Eurostat database](#) - provides a large range of statistical data in various areas, including statistics on population and social conditions (health, education, labour market, living conditions and social protection, crime and culture). Population statistics include data on demography, international migration and asylum, population projections, and census tables.
- [European Union Democracy Observatory on Citizenship \(EUDO\)](#) - EUDO CITIZENSHIP is part of a larger EUDO observatory on democracy in Europe. It provides the most comprehensive source of information on acquisition and loss of citizenship in Europe for policy makers, NGOs and academic researchers. In addition to legal and policy information, detailed statistics on citizenship acquisition can be downloaded from the website's [citizenship statistics](#) page.
- [Global Migrant Origin Database](#) of the Sussex based Development Research Centre on Migration, Globalisation and Poverty. The global data base ) consists of a 226x226 matrix of origin-destination stocks by country and economy. The data are generated by disaggregating the information on migrant stock in each destination country or economy as given in its census. The reference period is the 2000 round of population censuses, so the data do not refer to precisely the same time period.
- [IPUMS \(Integrated Public Use Microdata Series\) International Database](#) - this database includes census microdata for social and economic research as well as data documentation on samples, variables and questionnaires. The database covers 130 censuses and 44 countries. It is hosted by the Minnesota Population Center of the University of Minnesota.
- [ILO migrant database](#) - consists of three datasets on i) international labour migration statistics, ii) antidiscrimination action profiles, and iii) good practices on labour migration.
- [Migrationinfo](#) - The databases maintained by UNICEF in cooperation with the University of Houston features migration estimates from the UN Population Division. It allows customised data queries. Apart from tables, maps and charts can be produced.

- [MPI Global Migration Hub](#) - provides data on migrants' destination countries and origins, remittances, migration management, and asylum.
- [OECD Immigrant Database](#) (DIOC) - an international database with detailed information on the foreign-born population for 29 member countries of the OECD. Five data files are provided: One on the total population, one on the total population 15+ by educational attainment, and three data files on 'emigration rates' by country of origin for i) the total population, ii) the population aged 15+, and iii) highly educated persons.
- [OECD Database on Immigrants in OECD Countries Extended](#): In addition to data on 29 OECD countries, this extension of the OECD Immigrant Database includes data on 26 Non-OECD in Africa (4), Asia (6) and Latin America (14). Data on an additional 12 countries will be added in the course of 2010.
- [UN Population Division](#). The database provides estimates on migrant stocks since 1960s worldwide. In addition to ad-hoc webbased tables, data can be downloaded in spreadsheet format.
- [UN Statistics Division](#). The website provides a wide range of (largely census based) data on core demographic indicators, including the size and structure of the population, natality, mortality, international migration, ethnocultural characteristics, etc..
- [UNHCR database](#): The database provides comprehensive statistics on asylum seekers, refugees and other persons of concern. Statistics published in UNHCR's annual statistical reports as well as various other statistics can be downloaded in excel format.

## Annex 6: Important Metadatabases

- [EDACwowe](#) - **European Data Center for Work and Welfare** - it is a meta-data-shell for European research and policy making in the areas of work and welfare providing links to comparative and national, quantitative and qualitative data. It includes public opinions, indicators and statistics, and policies and institutions. The main topics covered by EDACwowe are: income and benefits, social care and work and employment. Among the related fields are: demographics, economy and trade, education, families, taxes, welfare contributions and spending, health and safety, industrial relations, migration, politics and elections, well-being and quality of life.
- [European Health Interview & Health Examination Surveys Database](#) - represents an inventory of nationally and internationally administered health surveys in EU Member States, EFTA countries and some countries of other regions (USA, Canada and Australia). The types of surveys incorporated into the database include Health Interview Surveys (HIS), Health Examination Surveys (HES) and combined HIS/HES Surveys. As of February 2009 there are 181 HIS, 13 HES and 21 combined HIS/HES Surveys in the database. HIS surveys included in the database have mainly been executed between 1991–2006, HES between 1999–2007 and combined HIS/HES between 1995–2007.
- [Migration in National Surveys Catalogue \(MiNS\)](#) of the Sussex based Development Research Centre on Migration, Globalisation and Poverty. The Migration DRC has created a unique catalogue of existing household survey and census datasets that contain information about migration in developing countries. The catalogue is designed as a tool for academic and non-academic researchers who wish to use existing large household surveys to study the characteristics of migrants (adults and children) and analyse links between migration and poverty.
- [UNECE Census Database](#). The UNECE Census database mainly contains census forms (questionnaires) and links to national statistical offices in the UNECE region. For many countries additional information (handbooks, instructions for enumerators, census laws etc.) is also available.



## Annex 7: International Survey Programmes

- [European Union Labour Force Survey \(LFS\)](#) - conducted in the EU Member States, the Candidate Countries and in Switzerland, Norway and Iceland. LFS provides data on labour participation of people aged 15 and over as well as on persons outside the labour market (unemployed or inactive people). Information refers to core demographic data, labour status, main and second job, hours worked, atypical work, search for employment and income.
- [European Social Survey \(ESS\)](#) - the survey was launched in June 2001 and since then four rounds have been completed. It provides information on attitudes, practices and characteristics of the general population in the areas of political participation, religious and national identity, moral and social values, social capital, social exclusion, national, ethnic and religious identity, well-being, health and security, demographic composition, education and occupation, financial and household circumstances. ESS has been used for collecting data on attitudes towards ethnic minorities. For more detailed information, especially on strengths and weaknesses of the dataset: download the [ESS dataset description](#)
- [European Community Household Panel \(ECHP\)](#) - this survey was carried out in the period between 1994 and 2001 and was conducted in 14 of the EU 15 Member States (except Sweden) to serve as a source for many of the commonly agreed social inclusion indicators.
- [European Union Statistics on Income and Living Conditions \(EU-SILC\)](#) - were introduced after the ending of the ECHP. The EU-SILC collects data on income, housing, labour, health, demography, education and allows providing information about social exclusion. The survey started as a cross-sectional and a longitudinal survey in 2004 including the EU15 Member States (except Germany, the Netherlands and Great Britain) and Estonia, Norway and Iceland. Since 2005 all then EU Member States took part in the survey. In 2006 Bulgaria, Romania and Turkey started to conduct the EU-SILC. In 2007 Switzerland also participated in the survey. For more detailed information, especially on strengths and weaknesses of the dataset: download the [EU-SILC dataset description](#)
- [Eurobarometer](#) - the standard Eurobarometer survey was established in 1973. The survey provides information on public opinion about major topics concerning European citizenship, enlargement, social situation, health, culture, information technology, environment, the Euro, defence, etc. Each survey consists in approximately 1000 face-to-face interviews per Member State (except Germany: 1500, Luxembourg: 600, United Kingdom 1300 including 300 in Northern Ireland). It is conducted between 2 and 5 times per year, with reports published twice yearly.

- [European Working Conditions Survey \(EWCS\)](#) - every five years, the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions conducts a survey to study working conditions in Europe. EWCS provides an overview of the state of working conditions throughout Europe, and indicate the extent and type of changes affecting the workforce and the quality of work. The survey has been carried out four times: in 1990/91, 1995/96, 2000 (extended to cover the 10 new member states, Bulgaria, Romania and Turkey in 2001/02) and 2005 (31 countries).
- [International Social Survey Programme \(ISSP\)](#) - the ISSP is an ongoing annual programme of cross-national collaboration on surveys. The surveys collect information on different areas of social life including topics such as religion, social inequality or national identity. Since 1984 the programme has grown to 43 participating countries.
- [Programme for International Student Assessment \(PISA\)](#) - since 2000 every three years PISA assesses how far 15 year old students at the end of compulsory school have acquired skills and knowledge in the field of reading, mathematics and science. All OECD member countries participated in the first three waves of the survey, along with certain partner countries. In total, 43 countries took part in PISA 2000, 41 in PISA 2003 and 58 in PISA 2006. For more detailed information, especially on strengths and weaknesses of the dataset: download the [PISA dataset description](#)