

Drivers of migration

Expert group meeting
in preparation for the fifty-second session of the Commission on Population and Development

New York, 02/11/2018

Summary

- Drivers
- Data, gaps and alternative sources
- The local perspective

International Migration Drivers



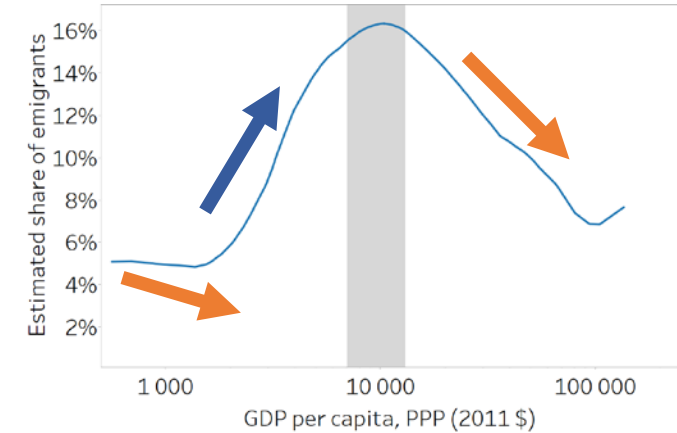
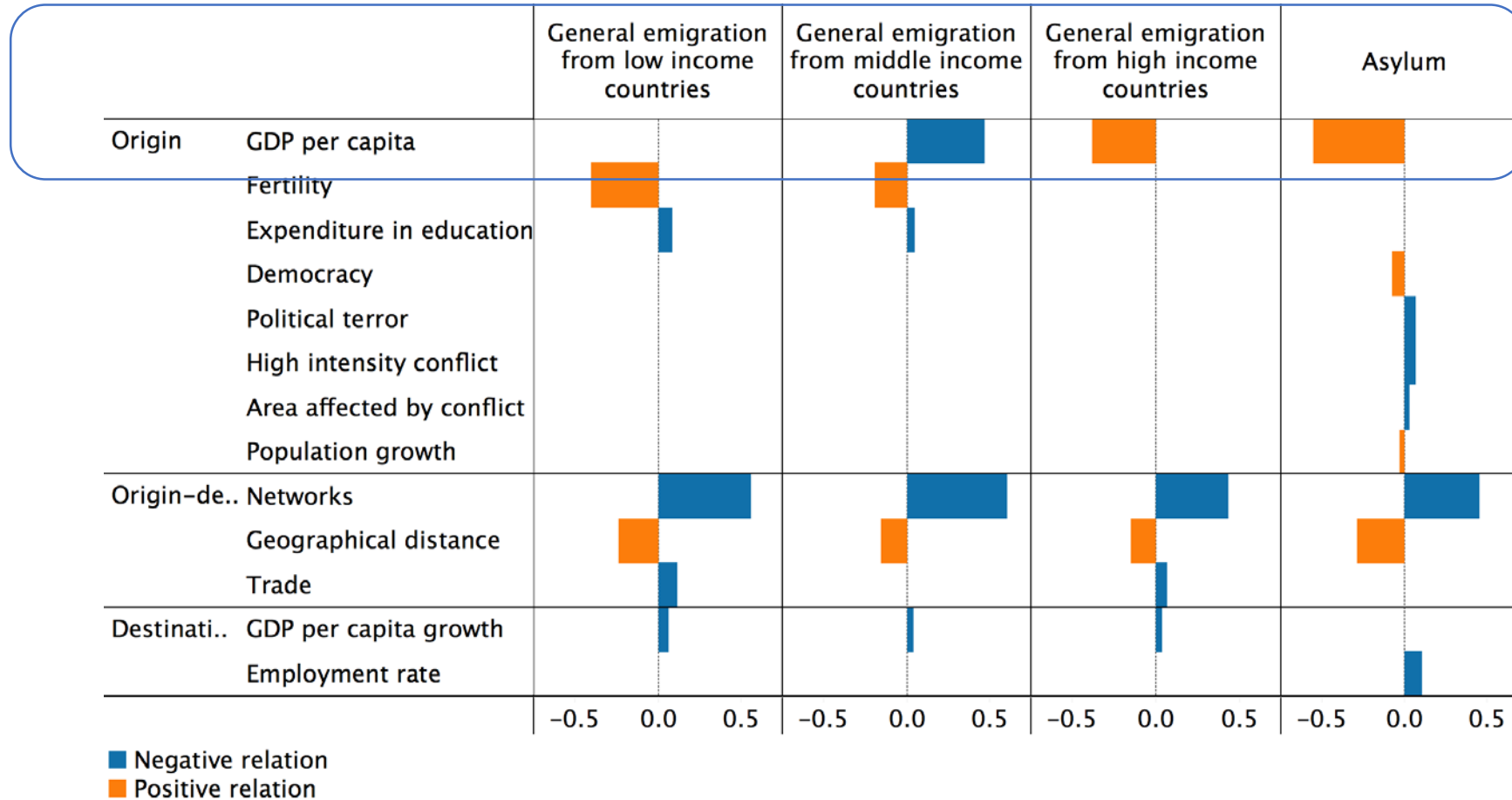
Why do people migrate?

- Quantitative approach
- Structural and individual factors
- Different forms of migration
- Global coverage

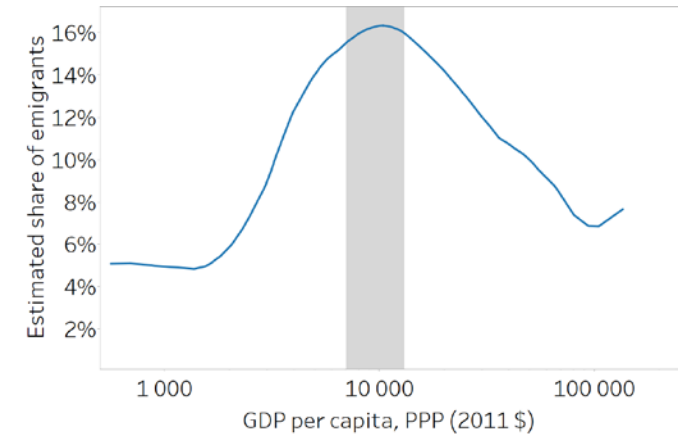
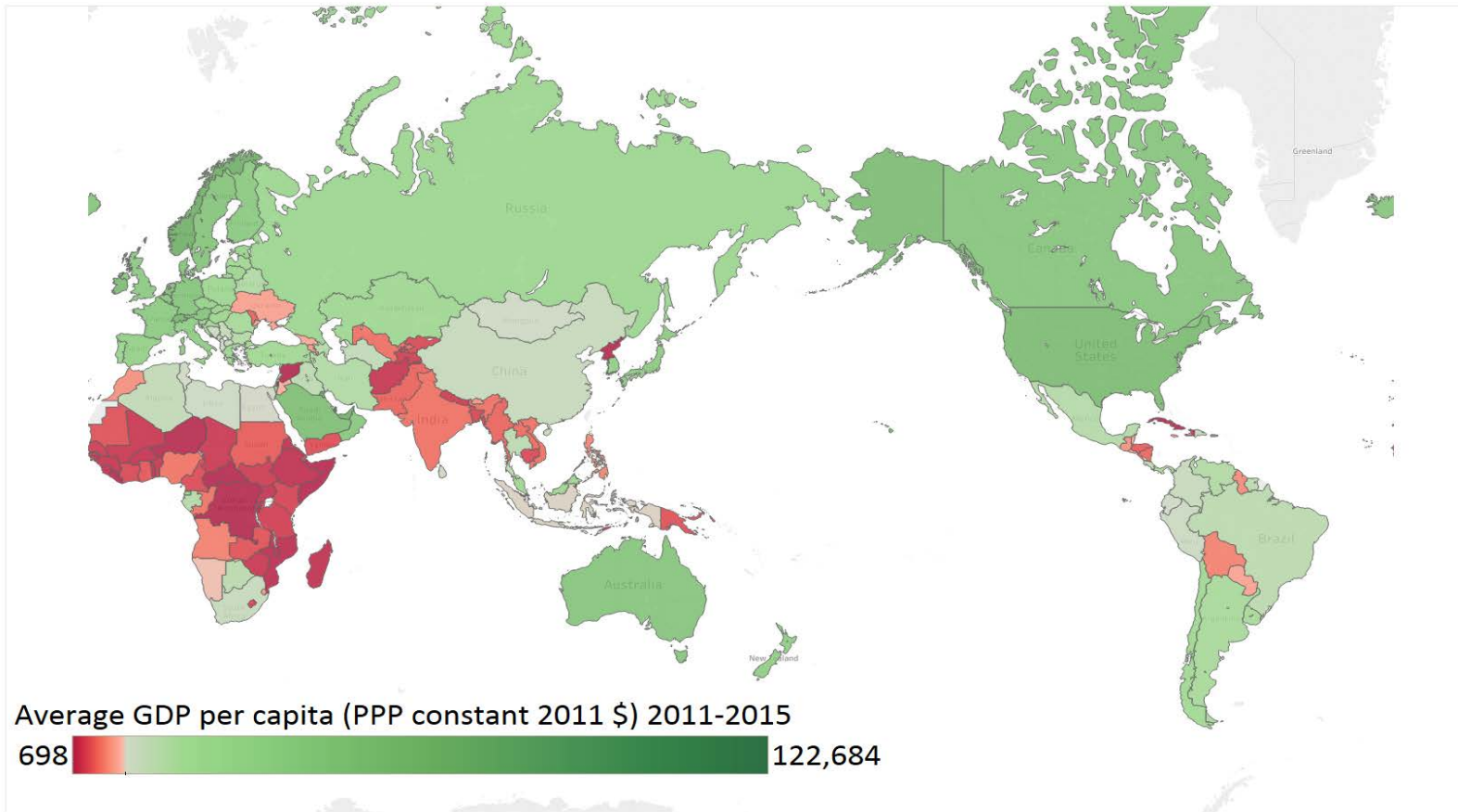
Migration data = β WDI + β Demography + β Trade + β Geography + β Conflicts...



Development: as GDP per capita rises, migration first rises and then falls



Most countries are very far from the tipping point

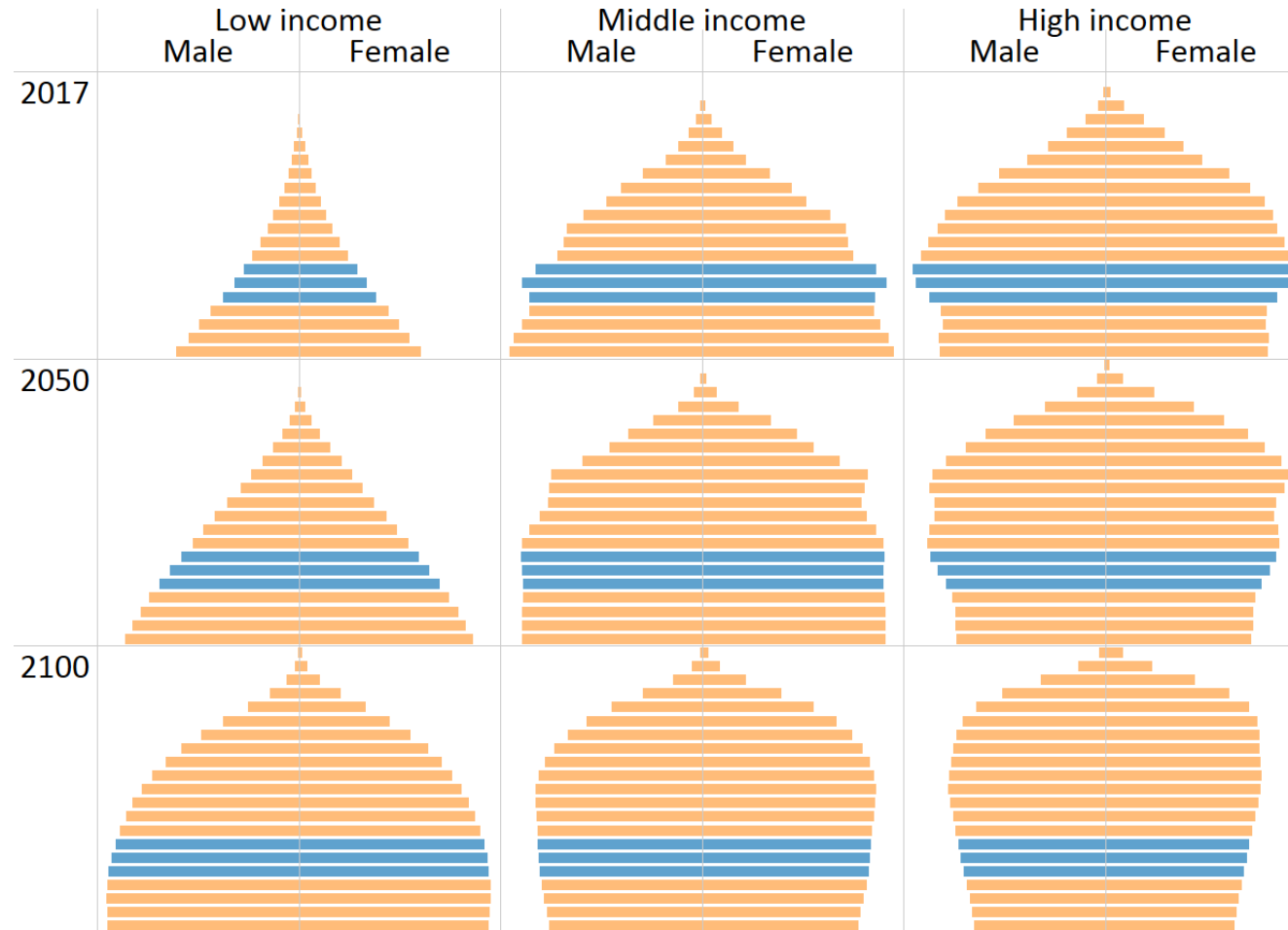


Demography: young people are more likely to migrate and ...

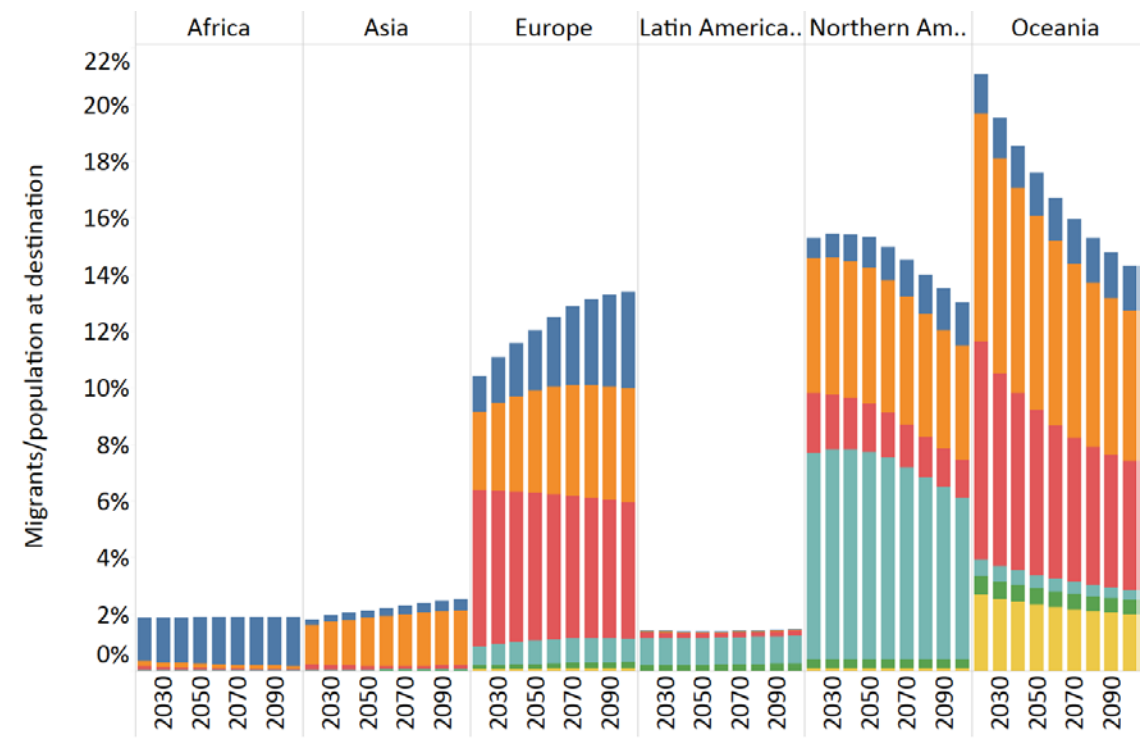
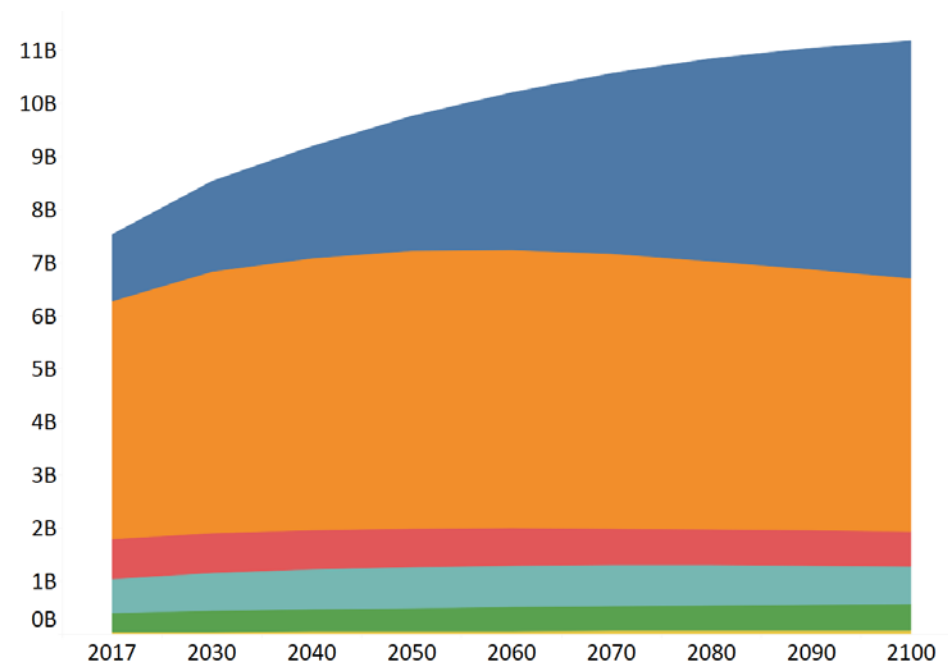
		Preparation in low income countries	Preparation in middle income countries	Preparation in high income countries
Age (comparison group: Age 15-19)	Age 20-24			
	Age 25-29			
	Age 30-34			
	Age 35-39			
	Age 40-44			
	Age 45-49			
	Age 50-54			
	Age 55-59			
	Age 60-64			
	Age 65+			
Having children (comparison group: No children)	Having children			
Gender (comparison group: Female)	Male			
Being migrant (comparison group: Native-born)	Foreign-born			
Network (comparison group: No network)	Network			
Marital status (comparison group: Single)	Married			
	Other			
Education (comparison group: Primary)	Secondary			
	Tertiary			
Work (comparison group: Employed)	Out of workforce			
	Unemployed			
Income (comparison group: 1st income quint.)	2nd income quint.			
	3rd income quint.			
	4th income quint.			
	5th income quint.			

0.184 6.726

...there will be more of them in low income countries

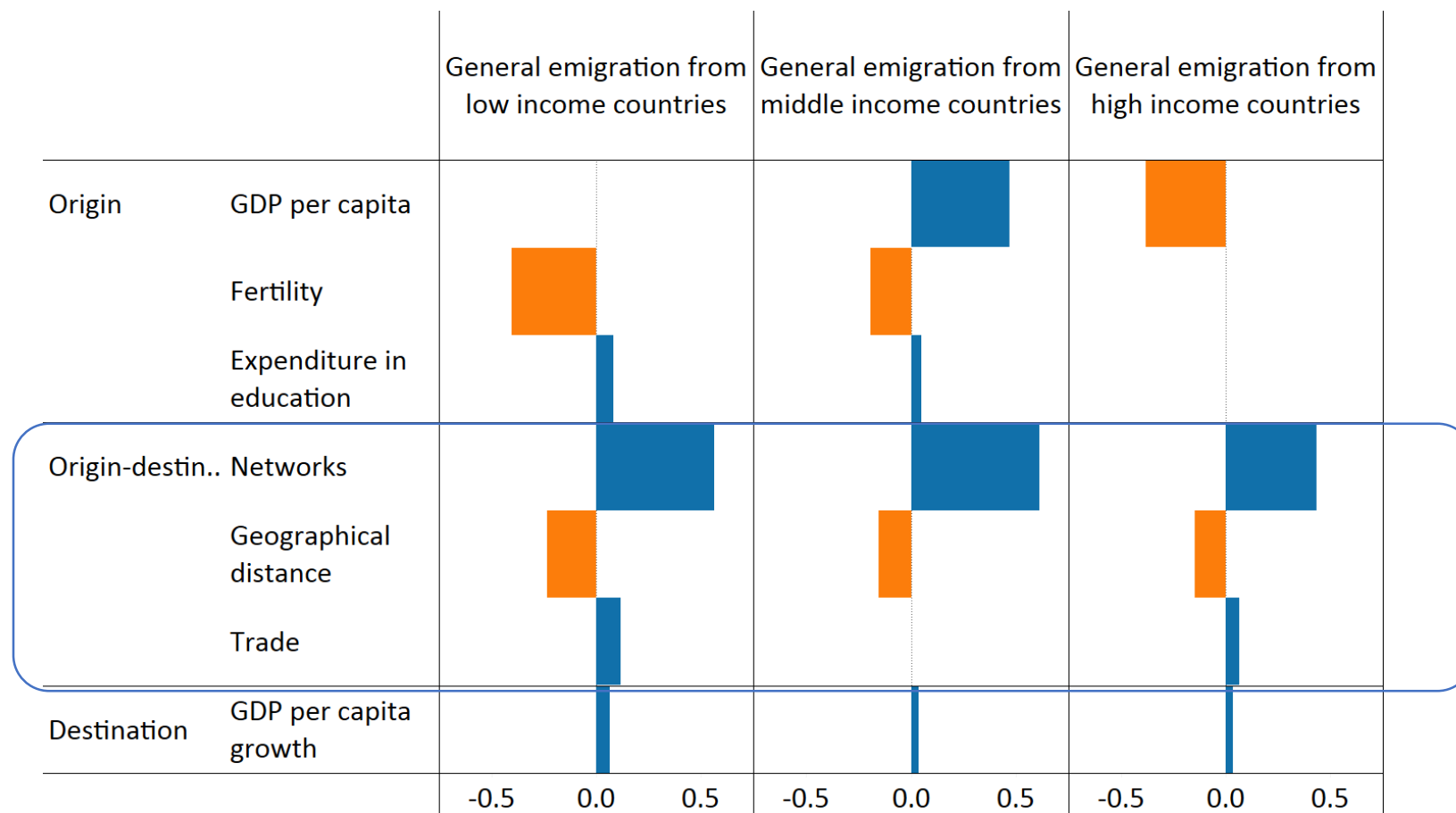


Demography: expansion of population affecting share of immigrants also if likelihood to migrate remains the same

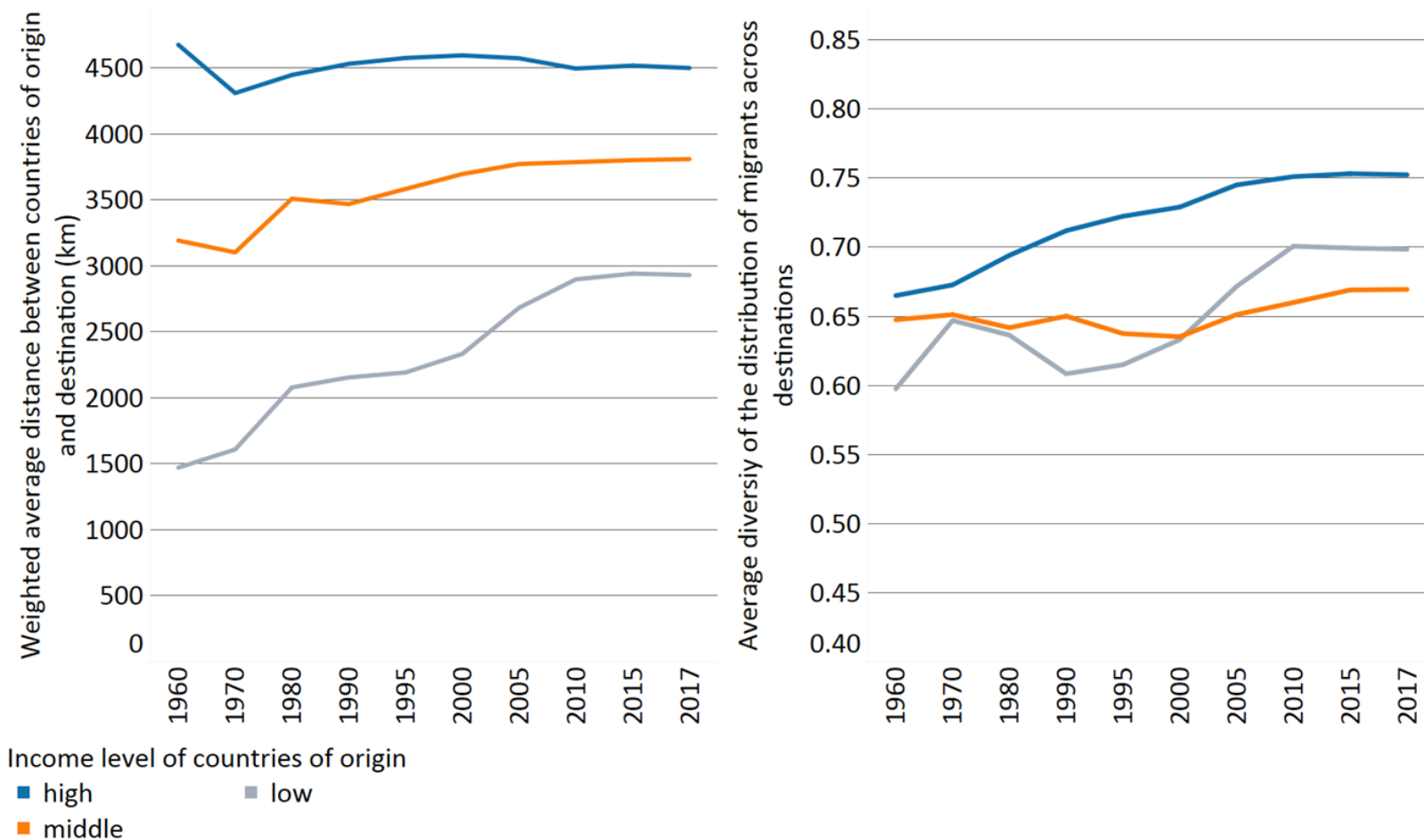


- Continent of origin
- Africa
 - Asia
 - Europe
 - Latin America and the Caribbean
 - Northern America
 - Oceania

Geography: people moving along existing ties but ...



...also longer distances and to a broader range of countries

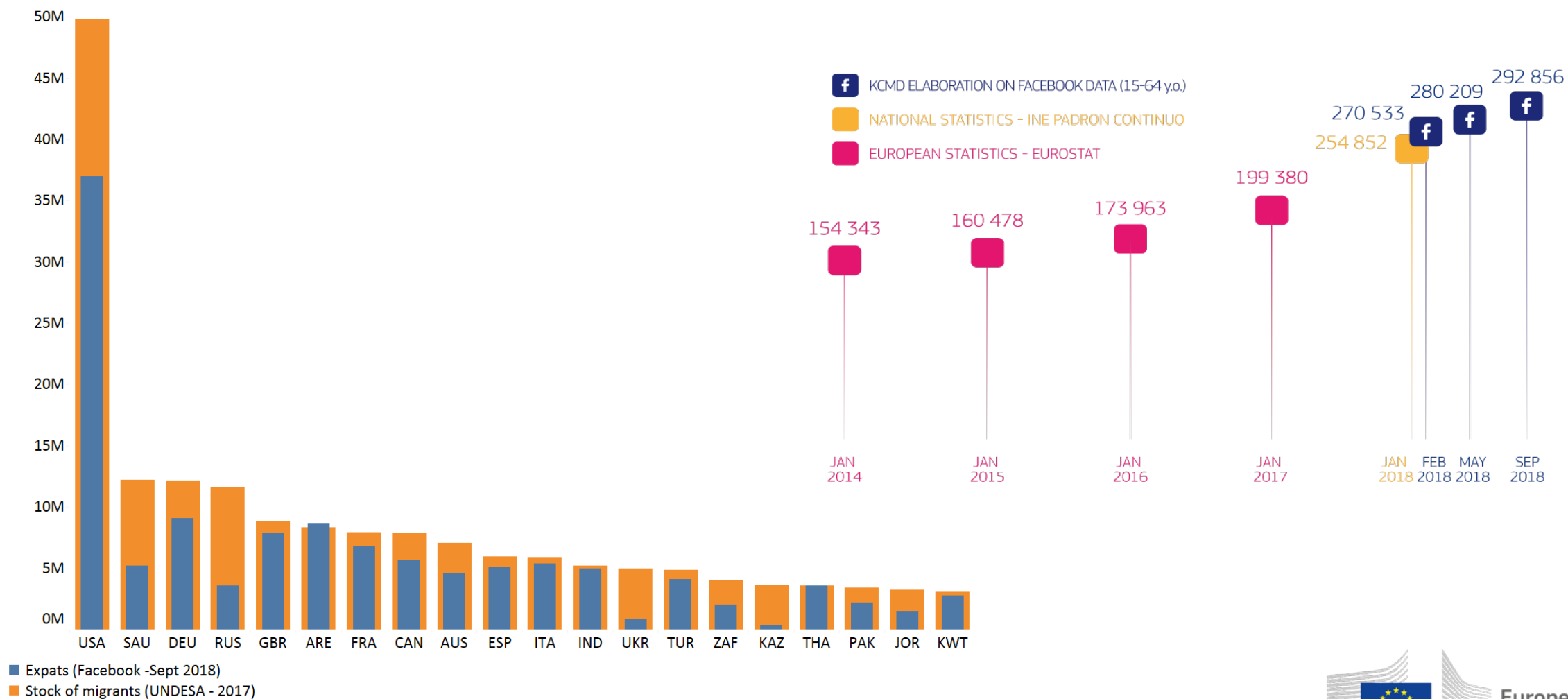


Geographical and temporal coverage of international migration data and gaps

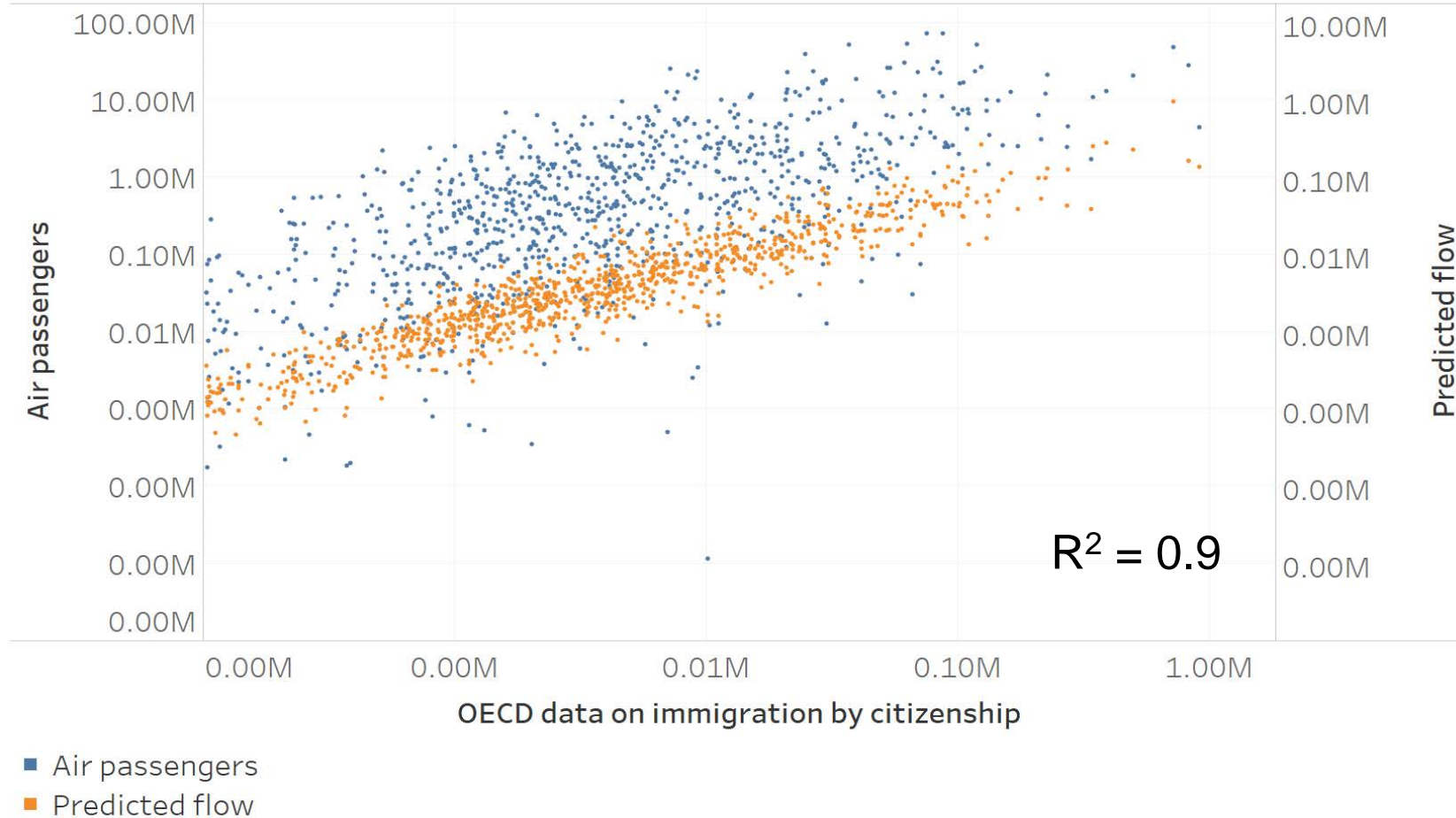
		1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010
Stocks	estat_stock_cob					.....	.....
	estat_stock_ctz					.....	.....
	oecd_stock_cob			.....	.....	.....	.....
	oecd_stock_ctz			.....	.....	.....	.....
	undesa_stock_cob				•	•	•
	wb_stock_cob	•	•	•	•	•	•
Flows	abel_flows	•	•	•	•	•	•
	estat_imm_cob					.....	.....
	estat_imm_ctz					.....	.....
	estat_imm_pvr					.....	.....
	oecd_imm_ctz			.....	.....	.....	.....
	undesa_imm_ctz			.....	.....	.....	.....
	undesa_imm_pvr			.....	.....	.....	.....
Asylum	estat_asylum_first					.....	.....
	unhcr_asylum_flows					.....	.....
	unhcr_refugees	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Residence permits	estat_res_edu					.....	.....
	estat_res_family					.....	.....
	estat_res_other					.....	.....
	estat_res_work					.....	.....

Flows within Africa?
 Temporary and circular migration?
 Breakdown by reason?
 Breakdown by skill?
 Emerging trends?

Estimating stocks with Facebook data

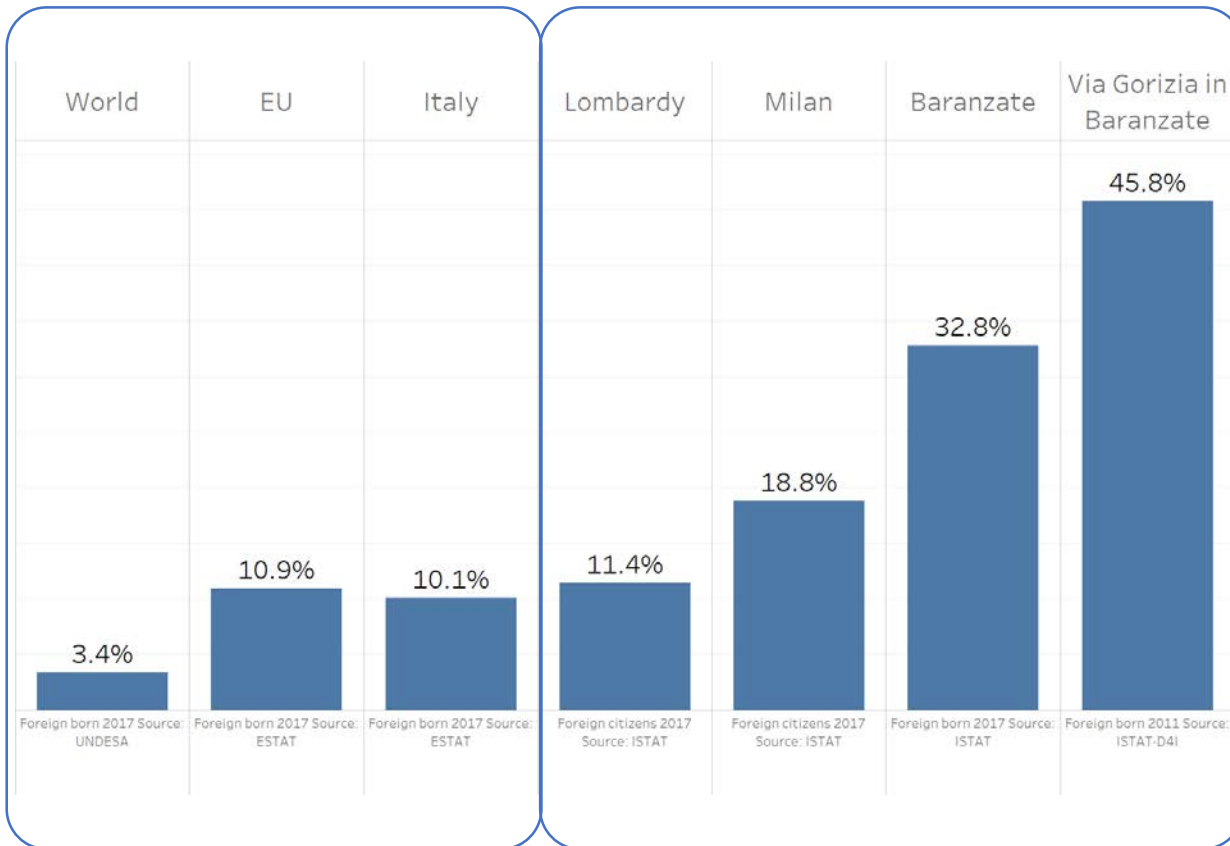


Estimating flows with air traffic data



- Measuring the size of “bridges” between countries
- Capturing also temporary migration
- A connection between migration and human mobility at large

Share of migrants: from world statistics to local statistics



Governance of international migration

Where integration takes place and our attitudes are shaped

Conclusions

- Migration increasing with development in origin countries but also driven by poverty
- Demography affecting migration through absolute numbers and changes in the age structure of population
- Strong role of migrant networks and geography and some tendency for diversification
- Alternative sources (not necessarily “big data”) can complement migration statistics on stocks and flows by providing: early signals, additional segmentations, coverage in parts of world where data is scarce
- Importance of zooming-in when considering integration aspects and to understand attitudes towards migration