

13th Conference
of the European
Sociological Association

(Un)Making Europe:
Capitalism, Solidarities,
Subjectivities

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ABSTRACT BOOK

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Theory will be applied to develop categories of people that use EU-instruments and to gain perspective on the subjective awareness and meaning for themselves. My empirical results will give an extended view of transitions in educational and professional biographies and the impact EU-programs on these transitions.

Migratory trajectories and labour insertion processes of Spanish scientists in the United Kingdom

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Skilled migration of scientists has become increasingly important in the European context. In Spain, the increase in the emigration of scientists is related to the transformations in its scientific employment market over the last few decades and these have been aggravated by the economic crisis: reduction in the demand of academics-scientists and the increase of precarious work among this professional group. In addition, academic careers in Spain are conditioned by clientelistic relationships, non-meritocratic selection criteria and a scientific policy with no long-term objectives. The United Kingdom is one of the main destinations of the emigration of Spanish scientists.

The purpose of this proposal is to present some results of the project "Spanish emigration of scientists to the United Kingdom: evolution, profiles and trends", related to their migratory trajectories, migration projects and their strategies of labour insertion at the destination. The methodology used in this research is qualitative by carrying out 22 in-depth interviews with Spanish scientists who emigrated to the United Kingdom. The preliminary analysis of the interviews allows us to identify two profiles: those who emigrated to do their PhD or postdoctoral fellowship in a British university, with a high level of English because of their previous training in international schools that provided them with access to international networks, and those scientists with PhD who were forced to look elsewhere because the lack of opportunities in the Spanish scientific system. In the latter case, the search for employment generally starts from Spain and the existence of a job offer in the United Kingdom, usually as a lecturer, is decisive.

From academic mobility to the long-term emigration: lessons from Portugal

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Emigration is a chronic structural process of the Portuguese society. The discussion and key arguments raised in this chapter are mainly focused on data from a research project (Bradramo) on Portuguese skilled emigration; based on the outcomes of the Bradramo project it can be suggested that recent phenomena in general, and the crisis that began around 2008 in particular, profoundly transformed the patterns of Portuguese emigration. Nowadays, the country faces a brain drain dynamic that is dramatically altering the profiles of national emigrants, emigration destinations, self-identity, and the strategies of those who leave the country. Academic mobility, mainly that promoted by the European Union (through grants from the Erasmus Programme), created and fostered mobility flows that reinforced a latent mobility phenomenon. Once engaged in academic mobility programmes, Portuguese higher education students tend to stay in the country of destination or, upon returning temporarily to Portugal, to evince a very strong predisposition to move to a country of the European Union. The profile of Portuguese high-skilled emigrants reveals a trend towards a permanent and a long-term (as opposed to a temporary or transitory) mobility, an insertion in the primary segment of the labour market of the destination countries, a predominance of professionals connected to the academic/scientific system and to professions requiring high skills, and a latent mobility (after a period of study in the country of destination) rather than direct mobility flows (after having entered in the employment system of the sending country).

RN35 | Session 03b Migrants in Rural and Peripheral Areas of Europe I

Individual outcomes of migration in agriculture: a comparison of two trajectories from rural Romania to Spain

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