A nova emigração e a relação com a sociedade portuguesa: perfis e estratégias dos emigrantes mais e menos qualificados

João Peixoto, Pedro Candeias (SOCIUS, ISEG-UTL)
Isabel Tiago Oliveira, Joana Azevedo, Bárbara Ferreira, Alexandra Ferro (CIES-IUL)
José Carlos Marques, Pedro Góis (CES-UC)
Jorge Macaísta Malheiros, Paulo Miguel Madeira, Aline Schiltz, Eugénio Santana (CEG-IGOT)
Objective

- The objective of this presentation is to compare certain characteristics of highly skilled and less skilled recent emigrants, regarding: main reasons for leaving; migration strategies; occupational insertion; transnational links and future plans.
- Key variable of analysis: educational level – highly skilled emigrants are those who have concluded a tertiary education degree (university or equivalent).
- The empirical results derive from a survey conducted to recent Portuguese emigrants (September 2014-May 2015).
About the research project

- Aims: to characterize recent (post-2000) Portuguese emigration outflows and to identify the relations between emigrants and Portugal.
Samples

n=6.382 (online=4.640; offline=1.742)
Top destination countries

*Less skilled*

- United Kingdom
- France
- Luxemburg
- Angola
- Mozambique

*Highly skilled*

- United Kingdom
- Brazil
- Angola
- Mozambique
- Germany
Reasons for leaving

- Had no future for professional career
- Wanted to have new experiences
- Wanted to study or improve professional formation
- Opportunity to own business
- Didn’t had future in Portugal
- Was unemployed in Portugal
- Was employed but unsatisfied with salary
- Family motives

The chart shows the percentage of highly skilled and less skilled individuals who cited each reason for leaving.
Transnational practices - remittances

**Less skilled**

- Yes: 50%
- No: 50%

**Highly skilled**

- Yes: 50%
- No: 50%

Additional data:

- [Graphs showing remittance frequency by skill level:]
  - Once per month or more frequently
  - Some times per year
  - Whenever possible
Transnational practices: home visits

At least once per month
At least once every three months
At least once every six months
At least once per year
Less often
Never

Less skilled
Highly skilled

%
Transnational practices: media

Scale: 1=Never; 5=Daily

- Read Portuguese newspapers (paper or online)
- Communicate with family or friends in Portugal
- Listen to online Portuguese radio broadcasts
- Watch Portuguese TV channels

Means:
- Less skilled
- Highly skilled
Transnational practices: political

Scale: 1=Never, 2=Seldom, 3=Once in a while, 4=Frequently, 5=Whenever is possible
Circular migration

Have you lived in another country before this one?

Less skilled

Highly skilled

No

Yes
Plans for the future

- Stay in this country
- Stay in this country for a while and then return to Portugal
- Emigrate to another country
- I do not have definite plans

**Less skilled**

**Highly skilled**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plan</th>
<th>Less skilled</th>
<th>Highly skilled</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stay in this country</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stay in this country for a while and then return to Portugal</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emigrate to another country</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not have definite plans</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
To sum it up...less skilled (1/2)

1. Sex ratio more associated with classical emigration
2. Age and years of arrival more dispersed
3. Emigration towards Europe
4. Emigrants who saw no future in the country, who wanted to make new experiences or were not satisfied with their income
5. 1/3 works in services like hotel, catering or transport
6. Longitudinally there is an increase in the workers on the financial sector and in domestic service
To sum it up...less skilled (2/2)

7. 2/3 of the migrants that send money does it on a monthly basis
8. Although most of them are installed in Europe, only 40% return home once a year
9. Use the media to speak with family and friends
10. Most of them didn't live in other countries previously (about 3/4)
11. They intend to stay in the destination country or return to Portugal
To sum it up...highly skilled (1/2)

- More balanced group in sex-ratio
- Younger, with large percentage between 30 and 34 years
- Residents in the UK and Portuguese-speaking countries
- 40% emigrated to "undertake new experiences" but also because they "didn’t see future in the country" and due to lack of career opportunities
- In terms of occupation, the largest share is included in "other situations“, secondly, is the financial industry
- In the difficulties of integration, distance themselves from the previous, less racism complaints and problems with the local language
To sum it up...highly skilled (2/2)

- Half send remittances infrequently, but with higher amount than in the previous group
- They visit Portugal more frequently than the previous
- In media practices, they distance themselves from the first group for reading more newspapers and magazines and see less Portuguese television
- In political practices, the values are higher in any of the items when compared to the other group
- 40% had previous migratory experience
- 1/3 of the subjects in this group did not have defined plans for the future yet
Thank you

Contacts:

www.remigr.pt
remigr@iseg.ulisboa.pt